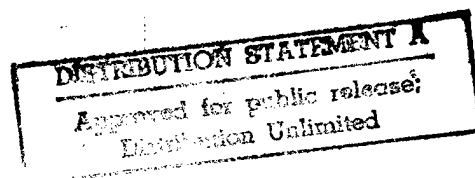


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Southeast Asia Report

VIETNAM

TAP CHI CONG SAN

No. 8, August 1984

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22 October 1984

SOUTHEAST ASIA REPORT

VIETNAM

TAP CHI CONG SAN

No. 8, August 1984

Except where indicated otherwise in the table of contents the following is a complete translation of the monthly theoretical and political journal of the Vietnam Communist Party published in Hanoi.

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LET US CARRY OUT THE PRESSING TASKS IN THE IMPROVEMENT OF ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT WELL

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 8, Aug 84 pp 1-7

[Editorial]

[Text] During the past several years, under the resolutions of the party, we have taken some steps toward improving economic management by enabling the installations and localities to display greater initiative and creativity, with the central level providing centralized, unified management in areas of basic importance, and by providing strong incentive for laborers to work hard in production.

The improvement of economic management is being carried in many areas and is the subject of many positions and policies of the party and state, but it is most evident in the policy on product contracts with groups of laborers and individual laborers within agriculture, the policy on granting increased independence to state-operated industrial enterprises in their production, business and planning, export and import policies... It has made important contributions to the advances that have been made in our country's socio-economic life during the past several years.

However, the advances and changes that have been made in economic management have not been uniform, strong or fundamental. Economic management is still marked by many shortcomings and weaknesses, some of which are serious and have existed for a long time. These shortcomings are manifestations of bureaucracy, subsidization, conservatism and inertia within the economic management system and decentralization, localism, disorganization and the lack of discipline. These shortcomings are completely contrary to the line of our party, to the nature of our system and have adversely affected socialist construction and the defense of the fatherland. Decisive steps must be taken to correct these shortcomings.

To meet the socio-economic goals for the 1980's that were set by the 5th Party Congress, the recently concluded 6th Plenum of the Party Central Committee established the main guidelines and requirements in the improvement of economic management in the months ahead as:

a) We must uphold the right of collective ownership of the laboring people, have all three levels exercise ownership together and mobilize the combined

forces of the entire country with a view toward developing potentials in the best possible manner and accelerating production and business while achieving increasingly high productivity, quality and efficiency in production and business.

The new economic management system must fully embody the principle of democratic centralism, have the plan as its center and closely link the plan to accounting and socialist business principles.

We must enable production and business units to display greater initiative and creativity and establish their financial independence. The localities must be allowed to display greater initiative under the centralized, unified management of the central level and obligations must be linked to interests, responsibilities to authority within each sector, on each level and at each basic unit.

We must continue to establish a rational division of labor and responsibilities between the central level and the localities (the provinces, municipalities, districts and precincts); build and strengthen the economic-technical sectors; coordinate management by sector with management by locality and territory; and promote the building of the districts and the strengthening of the district level.

b) We must strengthen and develop the socialist economy and insure that the state-operated economy plays the dominant role; intensify transformation in coordination with construction; resolutely combat negative phenomena and enemy sabotage; develop production in a manner closely tied to protecting production; win victory in the bitter struggle between socialism and capitalism, between ourselves and the enemy; and establish socialist order within the economy and society in accordance with the line of the party.

c) We must continue to improve distribution and circulation in a positive and steady manner and establish socialist order within distribution and circulation.

On the basis of developing production and intensifying socialist transformation, positive steps must be taken to strengthen and expand socialist commerce, improve the management of the market, remove the bourgeoisie from commerce, abolish the black market and abolish the free market in products in which the state has the exclusive right to do business. We must promptly adjust price, wage, financial and monetary policies, balance the three interests, correctly apply the principle of distribution in accordance with labor in a manner consistent with the actual situation and support socialist production and business better. We must stabilize and gradually improve the lives of laborers, especially manual workers, cadres and the armed forces, while giving attention to accumulating capital for socialist industrialization and insuring that national defense and security needs are met.

d) We must revamp the management apparatus and improve its ability to organize implementation in order to competently support the basic level. On the basis of clearly defining and properly coordinating the administrative-economic management functions and the production-business management functions

of the state, we must clearly define the tasks and authority of each unit and each person. We must strengthen and streamline the management apparatus, rearrange the corps of cadres and strengthen the socialist system of law, discipline and the responsibility system.

In the immediate future, we must bring about a strong change in economic management, with efforts focused on resolving the following two types of problems:

First, we must vigorously develop upon the right of collective ownership of the laboring people, tap the initiative and creativity of the installations and develop each of their capabilities in order to reorganize production and gradually establish the new management system as well as a correct division of labor and management responsibilities.

Secondly, we must resolve a number of pressing problems in distribution and circulation, especially in the fields of the market, prices, wages and money, in order to support installations well; at the same time, we must establish the correct relationships in distribution within the national economy.

These two efforts comprise an entity, they support and create the conditions and premises for each other.

To properly resolve the problems of the first type, it is necessary to reorganize production and business installations while improving the management of these installations.

In the reorganization of production and business installations, we must concentrate the conditions and capabilities needed to produce important products and give priority to those important state-operated installations that have the conditions needed for stable production and are most efficient. The production of those installations that lack the conditions required for their tasks must be reoriented. And, we must be determined to disband those installations that cannot produce efficiently and have incurred sustained losses.

We must accelerate the planning of each district; continue to solidify and strengthen agricultural cooperatives and production collectives; improve the quality of the state farms, state forestry sites and state-operated fishing enterprises; strengthen the state-operated service-technical units supporting agriculture, forestry and fishing; and accelerate the establishment of marketing cooperatives and credit cooperatives.

The various production federations must be strengthened and their form and scale of organization must be consistent with their level of centralization and specialization as well as their level of management and management capabilities. These organizations must institute accounting practices and establish their financial independence.

Cooperative relations through joint businesses and economic ties must be developed in diverse ways. In the ties between units that produce raw materials and industry, we must insure that there is a balance of interests among those persons who produce raw materials, processing plants and the accumulation of capital for the budget, with appropriate attention given to the interests of installations that produce raw materials.

There is an urgent need to assign economic management responsibilities to the districts, build the districts and strengthen the district level. Economic efficiency must be the foremost standard in assigning a sector or locality the responsibility of directly managing installations.

The improvement of the management of the state-operated industrial enterprises must be designed to increase the authority and responsibility of the enterprise. To achieve this objective, the scope of the legal norms employed in planning has been narrowed. The policies that encourage enterprises to search for additional materials beyond those supplied by the state so that they can develop each of their potentials and expand their production must be implemented.

As regards the supplying of materials and product marketing, the supply agencies and enterprises must fulfill the responsibilities required under their plans and contracts. Enterprises, agencies and economic installations are prohibited from arbitrarily raising prices or selling products and materials on the free market.

To insure that enterprises achieve financial independence, it is necessary to revise production cost accounting practices and the procedures for establishing enterprise wholesale prices and improve the handling of state-operated revenues. Profit margins and the procedures employed to calculate profits must be revised so that the amount of profits retained by the enterprise is only dependent upon the scale on which the enterprise develops its production and its productivity and efficiency. Deposits in the various enterprise funds must be closely tied to the operating efficiency of the enterprise.

Wage fund planning must be improved on the basis of sound, approved quotas and unit prices. Enterprises should be allocated wage funds on the basis of the percentage of their output value norm they complete and the amount of products delivered to the state. The product contract system must be universally applied and accounting practices must be introduced within production teams and units. We must increase the authority and responsibility of enterprise directors in the management of the wage fund and the recruiting, training, placement and firing of workers.

On the basis of the industrial enterprise management principles and policies stated above, we will establish management systems that are suited to the units of the state-operated economy within the other sectors and fields, such as construction, transportation, security, cultural work, education, social work, etc.

As regards the agricultural cooperatives and production collectives, the state will guide them in formulating their plans by means of leverage policies, economic contracts and various forms of economic ties and joint businesses and by supplying them with technical materials. Legal plan norms will be assigned to cooperatives in the economic contracts that they sign at the start of the season stating the quantity of products that will be sold by the cooperative to the state and the materials that the state will supply to the cooperative.

It is necessary to review our efforts in organizing and managing cooperatives, with special attention given to further improving the product contracts with groups of laborers and individual laborers. On the basis of the management principles and policies that apply to agricultural production cooperatives, we will establish management systems suited to the cooperatives in the other sectors and trades, such as forestry, fishing, small industry, the handicraft trades, construction and transportation.

At present, the production situation is still very difficult and many imbalances exist, especially with regard to grain, energy, materials, finances and money. The free market is still very widespread. Steep price changes are occurring. The laboring people, mainly manual workers, cadres and the armed forces, are still experiencing many difficulties in their daily lives. In terms of income, the relationships among the various strata of the population are very irrational.

In the face of this situation, the improvement of distribution and circulation must be designed to achieve the following objectives:

--Stimulating the development of production while achieving increasingly high productivity, quality and efficiency.

--Stabilizing and gradually improving the standard of living of the laboring people, most importantly manual workers, cadres and the armed forces; regulating the income of the various strata of the population in a rational manner.

--Strengthening the national financial system, maintaining state reserves and gradually accumulating capital for socialist industrialization.

--Establishing socialist order in the field of distribution and circulation.

In order to achieve these objectives in the years ahead within the field of distribution and circulation, it is necessary to simultaneously perform two types of work:

On the one hand, on the basis of developing production, we must intensify procurement activities to control the sources of goods and expand the socialist market; actively transform and closely manage the free market; prohibit private merchants from doing business in products that are managed exclusively by the state; and combat speculation and smuggling and abolish the black market.

On the other hand, we must urgently adjust price, wage, financial and monetary policies to be consistent with the changed and still unstable economic-

financial situation with a view toward supporting socialist production and business and the daily life of the laborer better.

The distribution policy must correctly establish the fundamental relationships within the national economy, fully reflect the principle of distribution in accordance with labor, abolish subsidization, provide reason for the laborer to work with enthusiasm and balance the different interests: the interests of society, the collective and the laborer, the interests of the central level, the local level and the installation.

A series of urgent jobs pertaining to the management of the market and commerce, to prices and wages, to the financial and monetary systems as well as the management of exports and imports has been proposed for the purpose of performing the two types of work mentioned above. We must perform these urgent jobs in a full and thorough fashion in order to bring about a new change in the improvement of economic management.

Market management is a job in the nature of an intense class struggle and, at the same time, a job of very important significance. Because, the market is the scene of the struggle between socialism and capitalism, the scene of a sharp struggle between ourselves and the enemy every hour of every day. If we do not manage the market well, if we allow the free market to encroach upon and dominate the socialist market, we will not only fail to support the development of production and the establishment of proper distribution and circulation, but we will also be unable to stabilize the purchasing power of the dong, stabilize prices and stabilize the standard of living of the laborer. For these reasons, it is necessary to urgently perform each job proposed by the party in this field. Here, more than anywhere else, it is necessary to emphasize the thinking of the working class, the thinking of socialism and to guard against and thwart such incorrect inclinations as wavering and not being determined to eradicate the "black market"; not taking positive steps to narrow the scope of the "free" market; being afraid that vigorous transformation will adversely affect normal production and circulation; and impetuously wanting to immediately abolish the "free" market through purely administrative measures without taking positive steps to expand the organized market and the socialist commerce system.

As regards prices, in addition to many other matters, there is one important point that must be stressed: our state must strengthen its management of prices while establishing a rational division of price management responsibilities in order to insure that prices are set in a quick and timely fashion and do not adversely affect the production and circulation of goods. The sectors and levels must be prohibited from establishing prices that violate regulations and arbitrarily raising prices in order to raise their incomes by means that do not conform with regulations. We must stress the need for price discipline and be determined to restore order in the field of prices. With supply and demand still unbalanced, it is very necessary for our state to temporarily enact a two price policy. However, it is necessary to actively prepare the necessary conditions for eventually implementing a unified price system based on rational and stable foundations.

As regards wages, it must be realized that, under present circumstances, the problem we face is not simply that of raising nominal wages to keep pace with price changes on the free market, rather, our first and most basic need is to insure the distribution to laborers of a rational quantity of necessary consumer goods. Therefore, we must institute a system whereby essential goods are supplied at stable prices so that the basic component of the real wage is not dependent upon constantly changing market prices. At the same time, it is necessary to periodically re-examine that portion of wages that is affected by price changes so that we can maintain the real income of manual workers, cadres and the armed forces. Together with these steps, we must urgently research a comprehensive plan for making some improvements to the wage system so that wages truly insure that the energies expended by the wage earner on the job are replenished, that a rational relationship exists among the different sectors and trades, that the wage system is unified throughout the country and that distribution is carried out in accordance with the amount of work performed.

In resolving the serious financial and monetary difficulties and imbalances that exist, the most basic requirement continues to be accelerating production and practicing strict frugality; however, at the same time, it is necessary to adopt and implement a national financial policy that is well suited to the present stage in the period of transition. There is also a need for an appropriate financial economic policy and decisive, well coordinated measures for strengthening the purchasing power of the dong.

As regards the management of exports and imports, we must develop and improve our economic relations with foreign countries, especially with the Soviet Union and the other countries within CEMA. Priority must be given to providing the necessary production conditions and technical materials and allocating an appropriate amount of materials and goods, including imported materials and goods, in order to support the production and procurement of exports under the state plan.

On the basis of implementing the principles of the state's monopoly of foreign trade and foreign exchange and the central level's unified management of foreign trade and the transportation of exports and imports, we must encourage the localities, sectors and basic units to step up their production of export goods and participate in export activities. Every export and import activity, be it an activity of the central level or a locality or installation, must be under the state management of the Ministry of Foreign Trade.

The export-import businesses must be rearranged and strengthened. The export-import business in important products and product groups must be centralized in one organization for the entire country.

To achieve the objective of improving the support and management of installations, it is necessary to improve management within the sectors and on the various levels. This means that we must quickly increase the effectiveness of the state management apparatus.

To begin with, we must improve planning and concretize the policy on the three main levels (the central level, the locality and the installation) being in charge of their own plans.

On the central level, in addition to the broad responsibilities of the Council of Ministers, which include establishing and keeping up to date on the status of the primary material resource and value balances in order to insure that the central level firmly controls the process of socio-economic development throughout the country by means of the plan, the ministries and general departments have the responsibility of formulating a plan for their entire sector that is consistent with the level of development and special characteristics of each sector and must insure that plans are formulated and integrated from the installations that are directly managed by the ministry and those installations within the same sector that are directly managed by the locality or other ministries upward.

The provinces and municipalities have been given broader authority and responsibility in formulating and guiding the implementation of the comprehensive socio-economic plan of the locality, which also includes that portion of the local plan regarding the installations of the central level that are located within the locality. The plan of the province must reflect the province's industrial-agricultural economic structure and encompass both the installations of the central economy and the local economy. The district plan must reflect the district agro-industrial economic structure and be formulated on the basis of the specific planning of each district (agro-industrial, agro-forestry-industrial, agro-fishing-industrial, etc.).

The plans of all sectors and localities must reflect the guidelines "the central level and the local level working together," "the state and the people working together" and joint businesses or economic ties among localities or between the locality and central sectors.

It is necessary to promulgate, amend or revise a number of management policies and regulations, which include state accounting and statistics regulations, labor policies and regulations, scientific-technical management policies and regulations... State financial auditing and control must be strengthened.

We must streamline the state management apparatus while streamlining the apparatus of the party and mass organizations on all levels. The socialist state system of law and state discipline must be strengthened.

Lastly, we must attach full importance to cadre work and insure that cadres are selected in a scientifically based manner, that cadres are correctly evaluated on the basis of their personal qualities, their ethics and the ability to implement the new management system.

To insure the successful implementation of the resolution of the 6th Plenum of the Party Central Committee, it is necessary to give the entire party, the entire army and all the people a thorough understanding of this resolution; urgently concretize the positions and measures contained within the resolution; improve the way we work, in everything from the way we prepare decisions and make decisions to how we organize and inspect implementation and

conduct preliminary and final reviews of work; and mobilize the masses to intensify the socialist emulation movement, develop production and practice frugality, actively protect socialist property and steadfastly combat the enemy's acts of sabotage and the negative phenomena within society.

May our entire party and all our people display self-reliance and the spirit of socialist collective ownership, make every effort to correct shortcomings, carry out the pressing tasks in the improvement of economic management established by the 6th Plenum of the Party Central Committee and emulate in accelerating production and improving distribution and circulation, determined to complete the 1984 state plan and the 1981-1985 Five Year Plan, thereby meeting the socio-economic goals set by the 5th National Congress of the Party.

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THE 6TH PLENUM OF THE PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE ON THE PRESSING TASKS IN THE
IMPROVEMENT OF ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 8, Aug 84 pp 8-12, 46

[Unattributed article]

[Text] The 6th Plenum of the 5th Party Central Committee met from 3 to 10 July 1984 to discuss the pressing tasks faced in the improvement of economic management.

In his speech at the plenum, Le Duan, general secretary of the Party Central Committee, discussed matters regarding principles that are in the nature of laws in our country's socialist revolution and the party's basic thinking concerning the matter of improving the management of the economy.

This plenum of the Central Committee focused on discussing and resolving two types of important problems: first, vigorously upholding the right of collective ownership of the laboring people, tapping the initiative and creativity of installations, strongly developing each of their capabilities, reorganizing production and gradually establishing the new management system and a correct division of labor and management responsibilities; secondly, resolving a number of pressing problems in distribution-circulation, especially in the fields of the market, prices, wages and money, with a view toward supporting installations well while establishing correct relationships in distribution within the national economy.

The plenum observed: under the light of the resolutions of the party and on the basis of the broad practical experiences of the models that have emerged in the various localities, sectors and installations, the party and state have adopted numerous important positions and policies designed to make improvements in a number of areas of economic management that have had a positive impact upon production and business. Facts have proven that if we gain a thorough understanding of and concretize the correct line of the party in the form of a rational economic structure and an appropriate management system, if we vigorously uphold the right of collective ownership of the laboring people at each installation, within each locality and sector and if we mobilize the combined forces of the entire country, we can, even under the

socio-economic circumstances that exist now, bring about a strong change in socio-economic life.

However, the advances and changes that have been made in economic management have not been uniform, strong or fundamental. The plenum deeply analyzed the serious and persistent shortcomings and weaknesses in economic management. These shortcomings are manifestations of bureaucracy, subsidization, conservatism and inertia within the economic management system and decentralization, localism, disorganization and the lack of discipline. They are entirely contrary to the line of the party, have adversely affected socialist construction and the defense of the fatherland and must be corrected in a determined manner.

With a view toward achieving the four socio-economic goals set by the 5th Congress of the Party, the 6th Plenum of the Party Central Committee established the main guidelines and requirements in the improvement of economic management in the coming period as:

a) We must uphold the right of collective ownership of the laboring people, have all three levels exercise ownership together and mobilize the combined forces of the entire country with a view toward developing potentials in the best possible manner and accelerating production and business while achieving increasingly high productivity, quality and efficiency in production and business.

The new economic management system must fully embody the principle of democratic centralism, have the plan as its center and closely link the plan to accounting and socialist business principles.

We must enable production and business units to display greater initiative and creativity and establish their financial independence. The localities must be allowed to display greater initiative under the centralized, unified management of the central level and obligations must be linked to interests, responsibilities to authority within each sector, on each level and at each basic unit.

We must continue to establish a rational division of labor and responsibilities between the central level and the localities (the provinces, municipalities, districts and precincts); build and strengthen the economic-technical sectors; coordinate management by sector with management by locality and territory; and promote the building of the districts and the strengthening of the district level.

b) We must strengthen and develop the socialist economy and insure that the state-operated economy plays the dominant role; intensify transformation in coordination with construction; resolutely combat negative phenomena and enemy sabotage; develop production in a manner closely tied to protecting production; win victory in the bitter struggle between socialism and capitalism, between ourselves and the enemy; and establish socialist order within the economy and society in accordance with the line of the party.

c) We must continue to improve distribution and circulation in a positive and steady manner and establish socialist order within distribution and circulation.

On the basis of developing production and intensifying socialist transformation, positive steps must be taken to strengthen and expand socialist commerce, improve the management of the market, remove the bourgeoisie from commerce, abolish the black market and abolish the free market in products in which the state has the exclusive right to do business. We must promptly adjust price, wage, financial and monetary policies, balance the three interests, correctly apply the principle of distribution in accordance with labor in a manner consistent with the actual situation and support socialist production and business better. We must stabilize and gradually improve the lives of laborers, especially manual workers, cadres and the armed forces, while giving attention to accumulating capital for socialist industrialization and insuring that national defense and security needs are met.

d) We must revamp the management apparatus and improve its ability to organize implementation in order to competently support the basic level. On the basis of clearly defining and properly coordinating the administrative-economic management functions and the production-business management functions of the state, we must clearly define the tasks and authority of each unit and each person. We must strengthen and streamline the management apparatus, rearrange the corps of cadres and strengthen the socialist system of law, discipline and the responsibility system.

The plenum set forth guidelines and tasks designed to rearrange and reorganize production and continue to improve the management system of the basic units.

The central and local state-operated enterprises must be rearranged in order to correct the present state of centralization and counter-productive efforts. To make the best use of existing production capacity, we will concentrate our capabilities and conditions in order to produce important products of the national economy; give priority to important state-operated installations that have stable production conditions and operate with the highest economic efficiency; reorient the production of installations that do not have the production conditions needed to perform the task for which they were designed; and disband installations that cannot produce efficiently and have incurred persistent losses.

On the basis of the agricultural, forestry, fishing and industrial zoning and planning throughout the country, we must accelerate the planning of each district; continue to solidify and strengthen the agricultural cooperatives and production collectives; stabilize the production guidelines, size and organization of agricultural cooperatives; improve the quality of state farms, state forestry sites and state-operated fishing enterprises; and reorganize and strengthen the state-operated service-technical installations supporting agricultural production, forestry and fishing. The establishment of marketing cooperatives and credit cooperatives must be accelerated.

The plenum announced guidelines for strengthening the production federations and developing the various forms of cooperation through joint businesses and economic ties and stressed that all federated organizations must be production-business organizations that practice accounting and are financially independent. Within the ties between units that produce raw materials and industry, there must be balance among the interests of raw material producers, the interests of processing plants and the accumulation of capital for the budget, with appropriate attention given to the interests of installations that produce raw materials.

The plenum requested that the various sectors and levels take more urgent steps to implement the policy on the assignment of economic management responsibilities and the policies in the fields of planning and finance, commerce, exports, the building of the districts and the strengthening of the district level.

The Central Committee plenum made important decisions with regard to improving the management of state-operated industrial enterprises, decisions designed to broaden the authority and responsibility of the enterprise. In planning, the number of legal norms will be reduced and policies will be enacted that encourage enterprises to develop additional sources of supplies outside the supplies provided by the state so that they can develop each of their potentials and expand production. As regards the supplying of materials and product marketing, the plenum established the requirement that the supply agencies must supply materials and energy to enterprises in exact accordance with plans and contracts, emphasized the need for economic contract discipline and heightened the role played by economic arbitration while prohibiting enterprises, agencies and economic installations from arbitrarily raising prices and selling products and materials on the free market.

To establish the financial independence of enterprises, the state will revise production cost accounting procedures and the methods used to determine enterprise wholesale prices; improve the procedures for handling state-operated revenues; revise profit margins and the methods by which profits are calculated; redefine the parameters of the various enterprise funds so that the percentage of profits retained by the enterprise is closely tied to the development of its production and its productivity and efficiency; and broaden the authority of enterprises to borrow capital from the bank, including foreign currency, for production and business.

As regards the management of labor, wages and bonuses, wage fund planning will be improved on the basis of sound quotas and unit prices. The wage funds that enterprises receive will be based on the percentage of their output value norm that they complete and the amount of products delivered to the state. The use of product contracts will become general practice and accounting procedures will be introduced in production teams and units. Broader authority and responsibility will be given to enterprise directors in the management of the wage fund and the recruiting, training, placement and firing of workers.

On the basis of state-operated industrial enterprise management principles and policies, the Council of Ministers will establish management systems suited to the state-operated economic units within the other sectors, such as

construction, transportation, agriculture, forestry and fishing, including the enterprises within the national defense and security sectors, the enterprises in the fields of cultural work, education, social work, etc.

As regards agricultural cooperatives and production collectives, the state will guide them in formulating their plans by means of leverage policies, economic contracts and the various forms of economic ties and joint businesses and by supplying them with technical materials. On the basis of emphasizing the need for economic contract discipline, legal plan norms will be assigned to the cooperatives (and production collectives) in the economic contracts that they sign at the start of the season stating the quantity of products that will be sold by the cooperative to the state and the materials that the state will supply to the cooperative.

The plenum emphasized the need to review our efforts in organizing and managing cooperatives, with special attention given to further improving the product contracts with groups of laborers and individual laborers. On the basis of the management principles and policies that apply to agricultural production cooperatives, the Council of Ministers will establish management systems suited to the cooperatives in the other sectors and trades, such as forestry, fishing, small industry, the handicraft trades, construction and transportation.

With regard to a number of pressing problems in distribution and circulation, the plenum observed: at present, the production situation is still very difficult and many imbalances exist, especially with regard to grain, energy, materials, finances and money. The free market is still very widespread. Steep price changes are occurring. The laboring people, mainly manual workers, cadres and the armed forces, are still experiencing many difficulties in their daily lives. In terms of income, the relationships among the various strata of the population are very irrational. In the face of this situation, the improvement of distribution and circulation must be designed to achieve the following objectives:

--Stimulating the development of production while achieving increasingly high productivity, quality and efficiency.

--Stabilizing and gradually improving the standard of living of the laboring people, most importantly manual workers, cadres and the armed forces; regulating the income of the various strata of the population in a rational manner.

--Strengthening the national financial system, maintaining state reserves and gradually accumulating capital for socialist industrialization.

--Establishing socialist order in the field of distribution and circulation.

In order to achieve these objectives in the years ahead within the field of distribution and circulation, it is necessary to simultaneously perform two types of work:

On the one hand, on the basis of developing production, we must intensify procurement activities to control the sources of goods and expand the socialist market; actively transform and closely manage the free market; prohibit private merchants from doing business in products that are managed exclusively by the state; and combat speculation and smuggling and abolish the black market.

On the other hand, we must urgently adjust price, wage, financial and monetary policies to be consistent with the changed and still unstable economic-financial situation with a view toward supporting socialist production and business and the daily life of the laborer better.

The distribution policy must correctly establish the fundamental relationships within the national economy, fully reflect the principle of distribution in accordance with labor, abolish subsidization, provide reason for the laborer to work with enthusiasm and balance the different interests: the interests of society, the collective and the laborer, the interests of the central level, the local level and the installation.

The 6th Plenum of the Party Central Committee decided to develop and improve our economic relations with foreign countries, especially with the Soviet Union and the other countries within CEMA, in a manner consistent with the documents that were adopted at the High Level Conference of CEMA Member Countries held in Moscow in June, 1984.

On the basis of the principles of the state's monopoly of foreign trade and foreign exchange and the unified management of foreign trade and the transportation of exports and imports by the central level, policies and regulations will be enacted that encourage the localities, sectors and basic units to increase their production of exports and export goods. The export-import businesses will be reorganized and strengthened.

The plenum also set guidelines and tasks for the improvement of management within the various sectors and levels with a view toward providing increased support of installation management. We must improve planning; redefine the responsibilities of the ministries and general departments in the formulation of the plan for their entire sector; broaden the authority and responsibility of the provinces and municipalities in formulating and guiding the implementation of the locality's comprehensive socio-economic plan; and clearly define the nature and contents of the provincial plan and district plan. We must promulgate, amend or revise a number of management policies and regulations and promote the streamlining of the state management apparatus and the apparatus of the party and mass organizations on the various levels. We must continue to concretize and codify the policy "the party leads, the laboring people exercise ownership and the state manages" and strengthen the socialist system of law and state discipline.

The plenum pointed out: cadre work occupies an extremely important position in the performance of the tasks that have been established to improve the management of the economy. It is necessary to establish standards and insure that cadres are properly selected and evaluated on the basis of their personal qualities, their ethics and their ability to implement the new management

system. On this basis, we must rearrange and strengthen the corps of key management cadres of the various levels and economic sectors and within the different state management agencies, especially within the districts and production and business organizations. We must select and appoint as directors of important enterprises and corporations and district secretaries and chairmen cadres who possess good personal qualities and ethics and management and business skills.

To insure the proper implementation of the resolution of the 6th Plenum of the Party Central Committee, the Party Secretariat and Council of Ministers, under the leadership of the Political Bureau, must adopt specific programs for organizing the resolution's implementation, the main objectives of which must be:

--Achieving a high level of consensus and insuring unity of thought and action throughout the party and within all sectors and levels.

--Concretizing the positions and measures stated within the resolution in the form of party directives and state decisions and adopting plans, proposals and goal oriented programs backed by well coordinated measures.

--Improving work methods and correctly implementing the standards on preparing and making decisions; inspecting and controlling the implementation of decisions more closely; and conducting preliminary and final reviews, making awards and taking disciplinary action promptly in order to disseminate good experiences, encourage good work and prevent shortcomings and mistakes.

--Mobilizing revolutionary movements of the masses and intensifying the socialist emulation movements to produce and practice frugality, actively protect socialist property and combat negative phenomena while creating favorable conditions for the mass organizations to properly perform their task of mobilizing, educating and organizing the masses to participate in management in an effective manner, especially at installations.

The 6th Plenum of the Party Central Committee appealed to our entire party and all our people to display self-reliance and the spirit of collective ownership of the laboring people and make every effort to implement the resolution of the 6th Plenum well, emulate in accelerating production and improving distribution and circulation, successfully implement the 1984 state plan and make good preparations for the 1985 state plan, determined to complete the 1981-1985 Five Year Plan and meet the socio-economic goals set by the 5th National Congress of the Party.

7809

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INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION MUST BE REORGANIZED WELL

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 8, Aug 84 pp 13-21

[Article by Do Muoi]

[Text] Part I

With a thorough understanding of the lines and policies of the party, on the basis of the initial experiences and results that have been recorded and in order to accelerate the reorganization of industrial production in the years ahead, we must achieve unity of thought and action from the central level to the local and basic levels, closely coordinate industry with related sectors, concentrate every capability we have and endeavor to reorganize industrial production so that we succeed, between now and 1985, in completing the 1981-1985 state plan well while restoring socialist order within production and business and stabilizing the economic and management situations within industry, thereby establishing favorable conditions for the formulation and implementation of the state plans for 1986-1990 and subsequent years.

The reorganization of industrial production must fully comply with the party's line on building the socialist economy: "Accelerating the socialist industrialization of the country; building the material-technical bases of socialism; advancing our country's economy from small-scale production to large-scale socialist production; giving priority to the rational development of heavy industry on the basis of the development of agriculture and light industry; coordinating nationwide industrial and agricultural development within an industrial-agricultural structure; simultaneously building the central economy and developing the local economy; coordinating the central economy with the local economy within a unified national economic structure; coordinating the development of production forces with the establishment and perfection of the new production relations; coordinating the economy with the national defense system; increasing our mutual cooperation with the fraternal socialist countries on the basis of socialist internationalism while developing economic relations with the other countries on the basis of firmly maintaining our independence and sovereignty and on the basis of mutual benefit; and making Vietnam a socialist country that has a modern industrial-agricultural economy, a progressive culture, progressive science and

technology, a strong and solid national defense system and a civilized and happy life."

We must apply this line on building the socialist economy in the reorganization of industry in the years ahead with a view toward resolving the basic imbalance that exists now, namely, the failure of agriculture to meet the minimum needs for grain and food and supply the other essential agricultural products necessary for socialist industrialization. The general guidelines in the reorganization of industrial production between now and the end of 1990 are: focusing our efforts on stimulating the strong development of agriculture, considering agriculture to be the front of foremost importance and making every effort to accelerate the development of the consumer goods industry, the agricultural, forest and marine products processing industries and the export goods industry while continuing to accelerate the building of a number of important heavy industrial sectors in order to urgently but gradually correct the serious imbalances in the supply of energy, materials, spare parts and raw materials, in communications-transportation and so forth so that we can coordinate agriculture, the consumer goods industry and heavy industry within a rational agricultural-industrial structure suited to the requirements of the initial stage in the period of transition from small-scale production to large-scale socialist production.

The specific objectives that must be met are:

--The reorganization of production must be designed to achieve the highest possible economic efficiency on the basis of insuring development in accordance with state planning and plans, insuring rational balance among the sectors, areas of the country, localities, installations and the various segments of the economy and focusing every capability we have on performing the main tasks of the state plan.

We must give priority to providing the material conditions needed to increase the production of essential products supporting production, everyday life, export activities and the strengthening of the national defense system and products that provide major sources of budget revenue. Among enterprises that produce products of the same type, priority must be given to those enterprises that are the most efficient.

We must take determined steps to reorient or cease production at installations that will not be able to achieve economic efficiency either in the immediate future or over the long-range and will only waste more manpower and financial and material resources if allowed to continue producing. We must reduce in size or cancel the construction of projects that are not truly necessary or for which we will be unable to provide the conditions needed for production upon the completion of construction.

We must attach importance to applying scientific-technological advances and improving management and make every effort to raise labor productivity and product quality, reduce expenses, reduce production costs, accelerate the flow of goods, combat embezzlement, waste and bureaucracy and curb and eventually eliminate the negative activities within industrial business.

--The reorganization of production must be designed to create positive balance based on practicing strict frugality in consumption and doing everything possible to develop sources of supplies and energy under the guideline of the state and the people working together, the central level, the locality and the installation working together.

The revamping and reorganization of industrial production do not come about passively, do not come about merely on the basis of the existing supply of materials and energy distributed by the central level in accordance with the norms of the state plan, rather, they must be carried out in a more active manner on the basis of the real capabilities that exist for developing the potentials that lie in many different sources and in making more rational use of these sources of supplies and energy.

Recent facts have proven that if we reorganize industrial production in a passive manner and simply reduce production to match the existing supply capabilities of the state, the results we achieve will be limited. Conversely, if we take the initiative and look for ways to utilize each potential by taking suitable measures and providing appropriate incentives through a more rational management system (material incentives for the laborer, the establishment of joint businesses and economic ties, frugality in consumption, efforts to export goods so that we can import raw materials, spare parts and so forth), we will largely be successful.

The reorganization of production must be designed to restore socialist order within production and business. Therefore, it is necessary to closely coordinate the reorganization of production with carrying out socialist transformation, strengthening the socialist economy and strengthening the leadership role played by the state-operated economy. We must make central industry strong enough to fulfill its dominant role and serve as the nucleus of the entire national economy. We must expand the cooperative economy and rationally reorganize and develop upon the positive aspects of the other segments of the economy while taking determined steps to prevent and eliminate negative activities and illicit and illegal ways of earning a living. We must accelerate the completion of the socialist transformation of private capitalist industry and commerce in exact accordance with the lines and policies of the party and state.

--The reorganization of production must be designed to improve many other important aspects of management and establish a new economic management system, one that is more dynamic and better suited to production and business conditions in the present stage of economic development. More importantly, we must improve planning and the system of economic levers, restore planned, disciplined economic order on the basis of allowing enterprises to display greater initiative in production and business and strengthen the accounting system on the basis of enterprises having financial independence, being responsible to themselves and meeting their own financial needs. We must balance the interests of the state, the collective and the laborer and closely coordinate the responsibilities, authority and interests of the central level, the locality and the installation within a unified and rational business management system. Full importance must be attached to upholding the right of collective ownership of the laboring people, of the working class in the

management of industry. Within each production and business unit, the conditions must be created for manual workers and civil servants to actively and effectively participate in enterprise management work, such as the reorganizing of production, the formulation of plans, financial audits, the delivery of products to the state and so forth while struggling to correctly implement the policies and laws of the state.

The scope of the reorganization of industrial production must encompass the following:

--Reorganizing the production forces within the production process in a rational manner with a view toward achieving the highest possible economic efficiency.

--Reorganizing the structure of the management organization, with special emphasis upon doing a good job of assigning management responsibilities and streamlining and rationalizing the management apparatus in order to support the development of production as best possible.

--Improving some aspects of the economic management system so that planning and the various leverage policies support and stimulate the development of production and in order to restore socialist order within the economy and management and make progress against and effectively eliminate negative activities.

The three elements of reorganization described above must be carried out in a well-coordinated, rational manner and must center around reorganizing production and business with a view toward achieving the highest possible socio-economic returns. On the basis of the guidelines, objectives and scope of the reorganization of production as stated above, the specifics involved in the reorganization of industrial production have been defined as follows:

--Reorganizing the industrial production installations (enterprises, federated enterprises, federations of enterprises and so forth).

The reorganization of the industrial production installations must be directed toward accelerating the processes of agglomeration, specialization, cooperation and the federation of production. On the basis of the actual quantity of electric power, fuel, supplies, raw materials, spare parts and so forth being supplied by the state and obtained on their own, on the basis of the task and plan norms assigned by the state and on the basis of their product marketing capabilities in the near term future, the basic units must establish correct production guidelines, suitable product plans and a production organization that is rational in terms of both its size and form. They must make maximum use of existing equipment capacity while studying the possibilities for matching their equipment, making technological improvements and rationalizing the use of labor in order to raise labor productivity and make full use of existing labor. They must reorganize their enterprise management apparatus so that it is streamlined and effective and reassign cadres, technical workers and management cadres in a well coordinated and standardized manner to insure production efficiency and high quality work.

The upper levels have the responsibility of helping the installations and each installation must endeavor to provide itself with supplies, spare parts and means of production so that the production and business process is stable and continuous. It is necessary to establish rational and diverse economic ties among economic units through economic contracts with a view toward implementing production guidelines and the norms of the state plan in the best possible manner. Within each installation, it is necessary to care for the health of workers, forge and improve their manual skills and create favorable conditions for them to perform their production work with peace of mind and enthusiasm.

--Reorganizing industrial production by economic-technical sector and territory.

Every economic-technical sector consists of central state-operated enterprises, local state-operated enterprises, joint public-private enterprises, cooperatives, private enterprises and private production businesses within the same sector as well as economic research, scientific-technical research and design institutes supporting the development of the sector. Depending upon the specific case, the organization of a sector can include technical supply or product marketing components. The installations of a sector are distributed within each territorial area and are managed by either the central level or the locality.

On the scope of the entire country, the ministry is the highest state management agency of each sector and is responsible to the state for administrative-economic management and the production and business results of the entire sector. Under the ministry's leadership, federations of enterprises can be organized that are national or regional (under our country's present economic, technical and social conditions, it is more rational to establish mainly regional federations of enterprises) that operate on the basis of accounting principles.

The enterprises of the sector that are managed by the local level can also be organized into federations of enterprises managed by the local government or as individual enterprises that are directly subordinate to the industrial service, but only if the number of enterprises managed by the locality is very small.

To implement management by sector, product groups that consist of enterprises and cooperatives within the same sector (managed by the central level and by the local level) can be organized so that they can discuss and reach agreement concerning such matters as planning and the formulation of specific plans, supplying and coordinating materials, implementing economic and technical quotas, improving product quality... The members of the group retain the authority to guide the implementation of their separate plan.

As the highest sector management agency, the ministry must guide and direct the local people's committees in managing the production installations that belong to the local economic component of the sector (including small industry and handicraft installation) in accordance with unified technical planning and policies.

Within the scope of the territory and locality, the organization of production must maintain the relationships that exist among the enterprises of the different sectors and levels within the territory and locality in the areas of production cooperation, technology, supply operations, marketing, the infrastructure, services and so forth for the purpose of achieving the highest possible efficiency within each territory, each locality and must be oriented not only toward creating a rational industrial structure, but also establishing a rational industrial-agricultural economic structure within the territory and locality. The local people's committee must properly fulfill its responsibility of providing state management of the enterprises of the central level that are located within its territory.

The organization of the sector economy and the territory economy must be based on insuring the exercise of collective ownership on the three levels, the central level, the local level and the basic level, with importance attached to strengthening the district level so that it is capable of guiding the reorganization of agricultural-industrial production within the district in order to make good use of labor, arable land, forests and ocean waters and achieve high economic and social returns.

--Reorganizing the various economic segments within industry by coordinating the development of production and business with socialist transformation in order to strengthen the socialist economy and fully develop the positive potentials of the existing economic segments while continuing to carry out the socialist transformation of the private, capitalist and small employer segments of the economy.

Depending upon the importance of each sector and trade to the economy, to political security and the national defense system, we must determine which sectors and trades should be allowed to operate only within the state-operated economy (for example the printing of cultural products, the production of Western drugs...); which sectors and trades should be allowed to operate within the state-operated economy, as joint public-private enterprises and at cooperatives; and which sectors and trades can be expanded to the existing segments of the economy and operate under the guidance of the state. We must resolutely prohibit organizations that produce fake goods, change their nature or operate illegally.

It is necessary to establish close coordination between construction and transformation, with primary emphasis upon construction, and, in this manner, restore socialist order in production and business, insure the leadership role of the socialist economy, the nucleus of which is the state-operated economy, restore discipline within planned economic management and insure that state law is highly effective. Only on this basis can we reorganize production in exact accordance with guidelines, planning and the state plan and establish relationships among the various segments of the economy that comply with the lines and policies of the party.

--Broadening the cooperation and ties in production and business among the economic units of the sectors, levels and different segments of the economy in order to help stimulate the formation, in practical terms, of a rational economic structure throughout the country and within each territory, closely

link agriculture, the consumer goods industry and heavy industry within a rational economic structure, closely link sources of raw materials to raw material processing plants within a rational joint-sector production structure and closely link production to timely material supply and convenient product marketing, thereby developing upon the economic efficiency resulting from the reorganization of production.

On the basis of the economic policies of the party and state, of long-term and yearly plans, the sectors, localities, enterprises, cooperatives, private organizations and self-employed individuals sign economic contracts with one another for the purpose of expanding the production and business cooperation and ties among economic units, among sectors, among localities and between the central level and the locality in order to develop the best possible sources of supplies and raw materials, make full use of the equipment capacity and labor of enterprises, accelerate product marketing and endeavor to achieve the objectives of the plan in keeping with the guidelines "the state and the people working together, the central level, the locality and the installation working together."

Forms of cooperation in production and business that arise in the process of implementing the plan but were not planned in advanced must be promptly added to the plan and be granted permission by the authorized upper level provided that they fully comply with the law and discipline of the state regarding the management of the market, prices, taxes and money.

--Reorganizing the management organization:

At present, the ministries and general departments are organized by general economic-technical sector. Although there are also some ministries that only manage one sector, the number of units subordinate to them is very small and this has resulted in a cumbersome management structure that does not correspond to the structure of production. Therefore, it is necessary to reorganize the sector management apparatus on the central level along lines that accelerate the process of specialization by sector and result in the establishment of a streamlined and effective management apparatus that consists of fewer intermediary elements and unnecessary echelons.

In the process of reorganizing production, ways must also be studied to simplify and rationalize the management apparatus of the localities. At the same time, there is an urgent need to establish a division of management responsibilities between the central level and the local level in keeping with the spirit of the resolution of the 3rd Party Plenum with a view toward coordinating management by sector with management by locality and territory in the best possible manner within the structure of a unified national economy. The responsibilities, authority and interests of the central level, the locality and the installation within the production and business management organization must be defined in a clear and rational manner.

In summary, industrial production has made certain strides forward in recent years; however, the lack of unified and well coordinated planning has resulted in greater decentralization and fragmentation, imbalances in many areas within production and business and a division of management responsibilities between

the central economy and the local economy and among the state-operated, collective and private sectors that is irrational in some ways and has resulted in low economic efficiency.

Therefore, the best way to correct the problems of spontaneous development, counter-productive development, impeding one another's development or continuing to maintain the small-scale, decentralized and subsistent production that exists now in order to accelerate the advance toward large-scale socialist production is to reorganize production by economic-technical sector. The planning and plans of the sectors must gradually be adjusted to create a rational sector structure within the national economy, correctly implement the economic strategy of the party, promptly apply technological advances, implement rational economic and technical quotas, implement correct economic and technical policies and coordinate the central economy, the local economy and the different segments of the economy in the building of sectors and trades that are rationally structured and unified from the central level to the installation. Having achieved this, we must steadily develop production, practice frugality in expenditures, make rational use of sources of energy and supplies, raise labor productivity, raise product quality, reduce production costs, raise national income and establish rational relationships in the distribution of national income as well as between the accumulation of capital and consumption.

At the same time, we must coordinate reorganization by economic-technical sector with reorganization of the regional economy of each locality and the economy of the entire country in order to establish a rational economic structure on a nationwide scale as well as within each region and closely coordinate the central economy and the local economy with a unified national economic structure.

Part II

The reorganizing of production is a major campaign that involves many complex problems that touch upon every aspect of the economy and society; consequently, to achieve success, the responsible agencies must research, propose and promulgate suitable policies and measures with a view toward promptly meeting the requirements of this reorganization of production.

It can be said that many current policies have become outmoded compared to the requirements of tasks in the new situation and there are even some fields in which virtually no policies have been enacted to provide direction, consequently, the implementation of policies has been allowed to become very haphazard and even practices that are contrary to common interests have not been promptly criticized or stopped.

It is necessary to quickly research and promulgate the following number of policies in order to direct and guide the reorganization of production within the sectors, levels and installations:

--A policy on energy and supplies designed to very strongly encourage the increased production of energy and supplies, encourage the search for new sources of energy and supplies to supplement existing sources and very

strongly encourage the practice of frugality in consumption while insuring that energy and supplies are tightly managed, selectively distributed and not lost.

It is necessary to properly implement the statutes on supplying and using electricity and to research and promulgate a number of related policies to insure that electric power is distributed to key production installations on a priority basis. We must clearly define for which purposes electricity may be used and for which purposes the use of electricity is prohibited; enforce stiff penalties for violations of the regulations on the distribution and use of electricity; put into effect an electricity rate schedule with different rates for peak hours and off-peak hours; practice utmost frugality in the use of electricity in everyday life; and enact a system of economic contracts between electric power suppliers and consumers, a system that provides for both awards and penalties for both parties in the execution of the contract.

At present, petroleum products, coal, iron, steel, copper, aluminum, cement, plastics, basic chemicals, dyes and so forth are materials that are managed, sold and distributed exclusive by state government on the central and local levels. However, because of management loopholes, many types of these materials are winding up on the free market in rather large quantities. On the other hand, the use of strategic materials is not being tightly managed and this has resulted in much waste and large losses.

It is necessary to amend and revise or promulgate additional regulations on the exportation, importation, production, circulation and use of strategic materials that are consistent with immediate and long-range requirements. We must prohibit and take stern action against every practice that involves the illegal sale and use of materials while practicing frugality and taking appropriate measures to encourage the use of substitute materials from domestic sources. Specifically:

--We must enact regulations that restrict the use of scarce materials to the production of certain products.

--We must enact a policy that provides appropriate material incentives to units to utilize substitute materials, thereby saving foreign currency and reducing the need for imported materials.

--A policy on the equipment and plants of enterprises that is designed to make it easy for those installations that are distributed electricity on a priority basis to develop their production by augmenting what they now have with matched equipment in order to increase their production capacity, primarily through surplus equipment from other sectors and production installations or warehouses of the state, and bring themselves in line with more complete and advanced industrial standards.

Special purpose equipment that is currently not being used but which will be very necessary for production at a later date must be properly stored and responsibility for managing and maintaining this equipment must be clearly defined.

As regards production lines that are now complete but for which we lack the conditions needed to maintain production, there is the possibility of researching and proposing positions and policies for mobilizing capital in suitable ways in order to develop business, thereby maintaining the jobs of workers, producing products and providing profits for the state.

As regards plants and portions of plants that must cease production, research must be conducted into quickly shifting these facilities to other work and meeting immediate or long-range needs of installations within or outside industry by establishing them as state-operated enterprises or cooperatives instead of allowing them to remain idle for long periods and wasting their capacity.

--A policy on supporting the daily lives of the cadres, manual workers and civil servants within the industrial sectors: manual workers and civil servants are currently encountering very many difficulties in their daily lives and full importance must be attached to proposing policies and measures for resolving these difficulties. At the same time, we must more thoroughly implement the principle of distribution in accordance with labor and tie the real income of manual workers and civil servants to increases in productivity and the development of production, thereby achieving high economic efficiency in production. The primary measure employed here must be to find additional work in order to provide additional income to cadres, manual workers and civil servants. We must promote the payment of product contract wages and piecework wages and expand the various forms of bonuses on the basis of maintaining a rational ratio between wages and bonuses and among the sectors, localities and different types of installations.

At those enterprises that must reorient their production or reduce their plans, it is necessary to give the enterprise director broader authority to look for ways to supplement the enterprise's plan by finding or developing additional work or sources of raw materials on his own, by performing contract work or by expanding the enterprise's joint business or economic ties with other units in order to provide work and income for manual workers and civil servants and resolve the problems encountered by them in their daily lives.

As regards technical workers who are displaced through the reorganization of production, appropriate steps must be taken to manage them and make an effort to find temporary work for them so that they earn enough income to live on and can be reassembled when necessary. In order to reduce the employment roles of the state, it is also necessary to research and propose specific policies and regulations for satisfactorily resolving the problem of newly hired manual workers and civil servants whose skills are underdeveloped and who work in sectors and trades for which there is no prospect of development by shifting them to handicraft production and agriculture.

A product marketing policy: generally speaking, the products produced by industrial installations are sold to state-operated commerce for marketing at home or exportation. Installations that need to use a portion of their product output to trade for raw materials or supplies must draft the necessary plan and have it approved by the authorized level. In principle, the products of subsidiary production must also be sold to state-operated commerce. If

state-operated commerce does not accept these products for marketing, the installation can turn them over to state-operated commerce or a marketing cooperative for sale on consignment at the directed price set by the authorized price agency.

Products are sold to state-operated commerce at enterprise wholesale prices. These prices must cover legitimate production costs and provide the installation with an appropriate profit margin so that it can carry out expanded reproduction and establish the necessary enterprise funds.

An export policy: it is necessary to encourage the increased production of exports by all sectors, localities and production installations, from state-operated installations and cooperatives to private producers and the subsidiary household trades. What we need are a policy on providing capital and technical assistance so that installations can expand their production of export goods; a policy on loaning foreign currency in advance of production so that raw materials needed for the production of export goods can be imported; and a policy allowing installations to keep a percentage of the foreign currency that they earn from their exports so that they can import the necessary equipment, parts and materials. In export activities, priority must be given to the exportation of products that have been processed and types of products that can earn strong foreign currency.

Attention must be given to encouraging increased participation by the sectors and localities in the exportation of goods to the socialist countries. The state will establish a separate supply of goods with which to make payment to sectors and localities in accordance with a positive and clearly defined policy if they produce practical economic benefits. At the same time, policies and measures must be adopted to manage exports and imports with the capitalist countries by the sectors and localities in order to uphold the principle of the state monopoly of foreign trade and foreign exchange.

--The state must soon promulgate regulations and statutes on management by economic-technical sector and management by territory. On the one hand, these regulations and statutes must guarantee that the sector manages the planning, plans, quotas and management policies and procedures of all state-operated, collective and private enterprises within the sector on all management levels, all the way down to the basic level. On the other hand, they must strengthen the management by territory of all businesses within the region by the governments of the provinces and municipalities.

In the immediate future, it is necessary to quickly establish a reasonable percentage of profits that must be contributed by the central enterprises to the local budget in order to closely tie the interests of the localities to the results achieved by enterprises and encourage the localities to allocate an appropriate amount of their human, financial and materials resources to support production at these enterprises and enable them to contribute to the local budget so that together they give more attention to and do more to serve the daily needs of the manual workers and civil servants at enterprises (both central and local). There is also a need to provide good production support services, develop public welfare projects within the locality and so forth.

There might still be other policies and measures that need to be researched and adopted. However, in the immediate future, the policies described above are of very pressing importance in guiding the reorganization of production to insure that it is carried out properly and insure unity of thought and action among all sectors and levels. However, these are very difficult and complex matters, matters that require concerted research efforts by the responsible sectors under the very close guidance of the Standing Committee of the Council of Ministers in order to achieve good results.

7809

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THE FATHERLAND FRONT AND THE ORGANIZING OF SOCIAL LIFE WITHIN THE POPULATION UNIT

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 8, Aug 84 pp 22-28

[Article by Dang Ngoc Nam]

[Text] The political report of the Party Central Committee at the 5th Congress set four general economic and social goals for the 1980's, the first of which to be mentioned is: meeting the most pressing and vital needs of the people and gradually stabilizing and partly improving their material and cultural lives, beginning by fully resolving the grain and food problem and meeting their clothing, education, health care, housing, transportation, child care and other essential consumer needs better.

The purpose of organizing social life within the population unit is to help meet this important goal. The population unit is a microcosm of society within a subward or village and encompasses many different strata, classes, nationalities, religions, generations and so forth, with the largest component being the laboring people who work in the different sectors and trades. In the cities and towns, the number of manual workers, cadres, civil servants and handicraftsmen has been growing as the momentum of the country's economic development has increased. After their 8 hours of work, regardless of where they work, they return to the place where they live and it is there that the majority of their other daily activities occur. The people of a population unit include persons of work age, persons who have retired or lost the ability to work, skilled and unskilled persons; employed persons and persons who are unemployed or do not have stable jobs; persons whose income is high and persons whose daily lives are still marked by shortages and difficulties; besides the majority of persons who work at legitimate occupations, there is still a small number of persons who earn their livings in ways not suited to the new system, etc. Within the population unit are adults of all age groups and children. The majority of children attend school but a few, because of economic conditions or family circumstances, have yet to enjoy the fruits of socialist education. Facts have shown that if full importance is not attached to the characteristics mentioned above, success cannot be achieved in organizing the social life of the laboring people within the population unit.

The population unit is also the place where the three revolutions are carried out, the scene of the sharp struggle to resolve the question "who triumphs over whom" that exists between socialism and capitalism and the place that upholds the right of collective ownership of the laboring people in the most direct and practical ways.

Social life within the population unit encompasses many specific aspects of life: from jobs and production to food, drinking water and clothing, from books and medicine to housing and schools, from streets, bridges across canals and streetlights to sewers, public restrooms, public trash containers, meeting places, reading rooms, etc. Life within the population unit also consists of the singing of children and the laughter of adults, of order and security on the streets and a warm and loving atmosphere within the family and the feelings of loyalty and duty toward one's village or hamlet... Clearly, organizing social life involves not only providing things that are essential to the citizen, but also mobilizing the masses to build the new, socialist life and gradually establishing the model of collective ownership by the laboring people on the basic level.

At very many places, the realities of the past several years have confirmed that it is entirely possible to organize and create a new life for the laboring people within the population unit. Let us consider as an example the 21st Subward, a poor subward of Binh Thanh District in Ho Chi Minh City: practically all of the subward's 8,550 citizens earn their livings by working for hire, working as handicraftsmen, working in the service sector or selling miscellaneous goods. Many persons are unemployed. Many of its narrow streets are muddy and in poor condition and some "houses" consist of nothing more than a piece of sheet metal leaning against a brick wall. A rather large number of children of school age are unable to begin school when they should. The Ho Chi Minh City Fatherland Front Committee held discussions and reached agreement with the party committee and Front committee of Binh Thanh District together with the subward party chapter committee to use the subward as the site of a pilot project in the Front taking charge of coordinating and uniting the activities of its member organizations and establishing coordination between the Front and the government within the subward in order to organize the daily lives of the people. In the space of only 1 year, under the leadership of the subward party chapter committee, the Front mobilized the people to contribute 228,700 dong and hundreds of thousands of mandays in order to build 18 projects and perform other specific jobs with a view toward improving the standard of living of the people. In 1982, on the basis of meeting and exceeding the production plan norms assigned by the district, the subward found jobs for 326 persons and, during the 1st quarter of 1983, jobs were found for an additional 98 persons, more than 40 percent of whom were hired at production installations right within the subward. The subward has allocated 24,000 dong (7,000 dong of which were contributed by the people) to build a wall around the school to provide students with a calm and quiet atmosphere, build a restroom for the kindergarten and raise the road bed of two narrow streets so that they are less muddy during the rainy season. In particular, the subward, in coordination with the agencies and mass organizations, has mobilized the people to contribute money and manpower to build 20 new apartments, each of which measures 22.5 square meters, at a total cost of 645,400 dong for distribution to 20 families that were either

eligible for apartments under existing policy or poor. A new neighborhood team consisting of these families has been established and been given the title "socialist neighborhood team."

For the most part, the organizing of life within the population center must be carried out on the basis of stimulating the development of production and encouraging the people to meet the norms of the state plan while opening additional sectors and trades and establishing additional production installations. In addition, ties must be established with other places in order to find jobs for all persons who are unemployed and all children who reach work age. To accomplish this, the people must be mobilized to help one another with capital, tools, space for production and occupational training in order to establish cooperatives or cooperative teams producing goods for domestic consumption and exports or organize a household economy in livestock production or crop production, by producing goods under contracts, by establishing production installations that are satellites of factories, enterprises, etc. This is work of foremost, decisive importance in organizing the lives of the laboring people because only when they have a suitable job can everyone gradually stabilize their daily lives and, on this basis, eventually achieve spiritual, ideological and political stability.

In Phu Thuan Subward in the municipality of Hue, the number of unemployed has been very high since liberation day. Together with making it possible for a number of persons to return to their former villages to work in agriculture or go build new economic zones, the subward government and Front mobilized and guided the people in expanding such traditional handicraft trades as the blacksmith trade, welding, carpentry, embroidery and lace work, the making of conical hats and so forth while introducing such new trades as the weaving of rattan and bamboo products for exportation, underground salt production, plastic and rubber products, etc. During the past several years, more than 200 persons who once earned their livings from the puppet army or government have been found legitimate jobs by the subward and hundreds of merchant families have been shifted to collective or household production. The subward has established four cooperatives, two production cooperative teams and three production units that employ nearly one-third of the labor within the subward.

At the start of 1983, the 1st Subward of Ben Tre City, which has a population of 5,039, established three cooperatives and 20 production cooperative teams. The 2nd Subward of Tay Ninh City, which once did not have any production installations, has been working to become "a labor subward with diverse small industry and handicraft production and a progressive cultural life." By the end of 1982, the subward had established 10 small industry and handicraft production installations through investments by the people totalling 917,500 dong, thereby raising the value of the subward's total output for 1982 to 4,689,278 dong and providing a job for virtually everyone within the subward in need of a job. The 5th Subward of Binh Thanh District in Ho Chi Minh City, a poor subward that once had not one production installation, organized four cooperatives, two production cooperative teams and 32 private production installations at the start of 1984, thus raising the value of its total output from 8,035,000 dong in 1983 to 11,044,600 dong in 1984 and providing jobs for 234 of the 242 persons within the subward who were unemployed. Many other subwards in Ho Chi Minh City have achieved similar fine results.

Supporting production, insuring that food is available for daily meals and organizing the service network are jobs of pressing importance in reducing the difficulties encountered by the laboring people in their daily lives and in helping to win victory on the most critical front at this point in time, the distribution and circulation front. Although these jobs are part of the function of the commerce sector, the government and Front on the basic level have a very large responsibility in organizing, guiding and inspecting consumer cooperatives, marketing cooperatives and retail sales agents and creating favorable conditions for them to extend their operations into the hamlets and back streets and deliver goods directly to citizens while insuring that these goods are of high quality, are sold at fair prices in accordance with ration standards and are sold at suitable hours so that they can be conveniently purchased by citizens.

Marketing cooperatives are established primarily through support from the people. The Duy Hoa Cooperative in Duy Xuyen District in Quang Nam-Da Nang Province, on the basis of having defined its foremost and immediate task as supporting agricultural production, has opened 12 procurement and sales centers in its five hamlets, which have joined efforts with the agricultural cooperative to accelerate production. Service activities there have also been expanded to many different sectors. There are two professional tailoring teams that mend old clothing for the people. The cooperative has competently participated in the transformation of small merchants, reducing the number of persons selling miscellaneous goods by one-half. As a result of agitation by the Front and the mass organizations, 99 percent of the village's citizens of work age have taken out shares in the cooperative. The marketing cooperative of the 21st Subward in Binh Thanh District in Ho Chi Minh City, which does business in 276 different products, sells 10 products at cost to cooperative members, sells 8 products at a loss to members of the public security force and the subward military unit and distributes 8 essential products, such as rice, vegetables, firewood and so forth at cost and on a priority basis to the families of disabled veterans and war dead. In the space of 1 year, the marketing cooperative of the 18th Subward of the 8th Precinct in Ho Chi Minh City saved the laboring people more than 1 million dong. The service network within the 27th Subward of Binh Thanh District consists of many restaurants, bicycle repair shops, watch repair shops, barber shops, hair styling shops, cold storage services, housing repair and whitewashing services, shops producing iron products, carpentry shops and so forth, all of which charge prices that are 15 to 50 percent less than the prices charged by private businesses.

In the organizing of life within the population center, there are many other areas to which attention must be given, such as repairing leaks and providing other house maintenance; building "affection" homes for disabled veterans, the families of war dead and families who have served the revolution (for example, the villages of Cu Chi District in Ho Chi Minh City have constructed 63 such homes in the space of slightly more than 1 year); building roads, filling in lowlying spots and providing lighting along narrow streets; digging wells and installing water pipes to houses; installing wired radio speakers to bring the voice and singing of the revolution to each family, etc. In particular,

schools must be built to alleviate the problem of students attending school in "shifts" or to provide places at which children can continue their education during the flood season. This is an intense movement that is spreading everywhere, in the cities as well as the remote rural areas. In 1982 alone, in the 22nd Subward of Binh Thanh District, which is a poor islet crisscrossed by canals and ditches, the people and the various agencies and enterprises built 7 public welfare projects, including 2 schools, at a total cost of 2.6 million dong (with only 200,000 dong being supplied by the state). The schools are also places to which children come to play and amuse themselves. The schools are also used after school hours for adult education and provide places at which to manage and educate children before school starts each day and on hot summer days. The 2nd Subward of the 11th Precinct of Ho Chi Minh City filled in several ponds and established a 2,542 square meter playground for children through 542,400 dong and hundreds of mandays contributed entirely by the people of the subward. Clearly, improving the lives of children somewhat at a time when adults are still encountering difficulties in their daily lives is something that brings enthusiasm and happiness to everyone.

Culture is also an essential need in the daily lives of the people on the basic level. Therefore, many places have been making efforts on their own to build cultural centers, clubs and theaters. Quyet Thang Subward in Bien Hoa City, Dong Nai Province, under the guideline "the collective and the people performing the majority of the work, the state providing guidance and assistance," built a cultural center costing more than 100,000 dong, more than 80,000 dong of which were contributed by the people, production cooperative teams and agencies. In Tien Giang Province, the people of An Huu Village in Cai Be District have built a large theater and a large medical aid station. An Thoi Village, which lies in the middle of the Dong Thap Muoi Region, has built a 1,500 seat theater on its own. Nghia Binh Province, in keeping with the policy of the state and the people working together, has constructed dozens of cultural complexes within the villages and subwards, an average of three to four complexes within each district, many of which are closely linked to the economic-technical complexes. Each complex consists of an area for cultural activities, an outdoor movie theater, a bookstore, a wired radio station, a school, a public health station, an athletic field and an outdoor market. There are a number of complexes that are operating very well, such as Duong Long in Tay Son, Dap Da in An Nhon, My Chanh in Phu My, Pho Hoa in Duc Pho, Quan Lat in Mo Duc and Song Ve in Tu Nghia. The birth of cultural complexes has improved the spiritual life of the people and narrowed the cultural gap between the cities and the countryside. In 1983, Nghia Binh Province spent a total of 17.2 million dong on the construction of basic cultural projects, 3.2 million dong (18 percent) of which were supplied by the state and the balance of which was contributed by collectives and the people. In Gia Lai-Kontum Province, the people have constructed spacious cultural centers that serve as gathering places for every activity of the people of the mountain villages. In Ho Chi Minh City, practically all subwards and villages have a cultural center and some places have constructed very attractive centers complete with conveniences. The 19th Subward of Binh Thanh District has constructed a cultural center worth 265,000 dong. Kien Giang Province has converted

hundreds of pagodas and temples into places that support cultural life. Generally speaking, the cultural life of the people within population centers has been constantly improved, thereby making considerable contributions to the three revolutions on the basic level.

Countless other welfare projects have been built by the people themselves to improve their lives. The people in a number of areas of the 15th Subward in Binh Thanh District, Ho Chi Minh City, spent 7 years making requests and waiting, 7 years during which they had to buy the water they needed each day because they did not have the 750,000 dong needed to install a water main. Finally, the Front, acting in coordination with the government, encouraged the people to display self-reliance and install a 1,650 meter water main, which was completed just in time for Tet. In 1983 alone, Binh Thanh District built 286 public welfare projects costing a total of 9,719,432 dong, more than 70 percent of which was contributed by the people. In Quang Nam-Da Nang Province, the Front mobilized the people to build some rather large-scale public projects, such as the 400 kilowatt hydroelectric power station in Duy Son 2, a hydroelectric power station in Dai Quang Village, a meeting hall, wired radio station and kindergarten in Dien Tho Village, etc.

From the many successful and practical efforts made in organizing the social life of the laboring people within population centers in a number of southern provinces, the following several initial conclusions can be reached:

--Most important is the matter of awareness. Clearly, everyone realizes that improving the lives of the laboring people is the foremost concern of our party and state. However, one question frequently asked is: in view of the fact that our everyday life is one of many needs, some of which are very pressing and at a time when the overall economy of the country and the economy of each locality are not developing strongly, can installations organize social life within the population center largely through their own efforts and which organization should take charge of this difficult and complex work?

Long ago, the party pointed out that organizing the new life and gradually improving the standard of living of the laboring people are a goal of the revolution. The party and Uncle Ho have also taught us that the potential of the people is boundless, that "any job, regardless of how difficult, can be completed with the people's support." The process of improving the life of the people must, of course, be based on the development of the national economy; however, this does not mean that we must wait until the economy is fully developed before improving the life of the people. To the contrary, at a time when many difficulties are still being encountered in production and the state funds allocated for this work are still limited, the organizations of the party on the basic level must and certainly can tap the dynamism and potentials of the people in order to provide for and meet some of the pressing needs in everyday life and gradually create a new and beautiful life. Only by improving the life of the people is it possible to build their strength, heighten their sense of socialist awareness and heighten their enthusiasm for and confidence in the new system, possible to assemble more and more persons within suitable organizations in order to constantly broaden and strengthen the unity of the people and launch spirited and continuous revolutionary action movements of the masses on the basic level.

The organizing of social life within the population center involves organizing the laboring people in fulfilling their obligation and exercising their right of collective ownership at installations, within each family, within each ward, hamlet and village and by each person so that they, themselves, organize and improve their lives in a manner that reflects self-reliance. Here, the role played by the party committee on the basic level is decisive. Those places that succeed in improving the life of citizens are places at which the party committee has the correct outlook, displays a high sense of responsibility toward the people, bravely overcomes difficulties, knows how to rely upon the masses and inspires all committees, sectors and organizations within the dictatorship of the proletariat apparatus on the basic level.

--Organizing the life of the people is the common responsibility of both the government and the mass organizations. However, the role played by the Front on the basic level is very important. Under the leadership of the party committee, the Front is the center that coordinates and unifies the activities of its member organizations and the activities of the Front with those of the government to uphold the right of collective ownership of the laboring people and carry out each task of the revolution on the basic level. This is the most important function, the unique function of the Front. Without this coordinating and unifying of activities, the organizing of the social life of the people within the population center as well as many other important kinds of work will fall apart and become fragmented, with the result that one job is performed but another is forgotten, one part is completed but another is overlooked and it becomes impossible to combine the capabilities and energies of the basic level into a single strength. On the basic level, the Front, on the basis of the policies of the party committee, coordinates with the government and the People's Council in proposing plans for organizing the life of the people during each period of time and then joins with its member organizations in formulating a plan, a plan that involves a detailed division of labor and the supervision and inspection of government activities.

--The organizing of life within the population center must mainly be carried out by the subward and village with a certain amount of assistance and coordination on the part of the precinct and district. (Of course, this does not include relatively large-scale welfare projects that are constructed by the central level, province, municipality, precinct or district with contributions by installations nor does it include other projects, such as the construction of inter-precinct, inter-district or inter-provincial roads or the opening of water conservancy projects, which benefit production and everyday life in very significant ways). Saying that this work must largely be performed by the subward and village means that every capability and means, all available money, manpower and so forth within the subward and village, including those of the agencies, enterprises, hospitals, schools, worksites and so forth that are located within but not managed by the village or subward, must be mobilized. Many subwards within Ho Chi Minh City have achieved many practical results by mobilizing these capabilities to serve the people.

The organizing of social life within the population center encompasses very many jobs that serve many strata of the people, but attention must first be given to looking after every aspect of the life of children. Children are the

future of the country, are the sprouts of the nation. Organizing and improving the life of children must be closely tied to strictly complying with the positions and policies on protecting, caring for and educating children. We must give priority to meeting the needs of children for food, clothing, preventive health care, medical treatment, education, transportation and recreation and give whatever is necessary, give the best of what we have to our children.

--The process of organizing life within the population center is the process of providing education to raise the socialist awareness and raise the spirit of unity, mutual help and revolutionary zeal of the people. The process of coordinating and unifying actions in the organizing of life within the population center is also the process of broadening and strengthening the Front, the mass organizations and the government on the basic level. Facts at very many places have shown that the results achieved encompass many broad areas of everyday life as well as politics, economics, culture, society, security and national defense.

Party Secretariat Directive Number 17 on strengthening the party's leadership of the work of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in the new stage reads in part:

"The various party committee echelons must lead the Front committees in orienting their work toward the basic level (villages, subwards) in order to accelerate the revolutionary movements of the masses on the basic level and create the new life within neighborhoods by means of flexible forms and methods suited to the characteristics and conditions at each place."

In the present stage of the revolution, Front work is of major importance and the tasks of the Front organizations on the various levels, especially the basic level, are very large, one of which, organizing and creating a new life for the laboring people within the population center, is an urgent necessity. By always seeking the leadership of the various party committee echelons, by tapping and mobilizing the boundless capabilities of the people and by successfully coordinating and unifying the activities of the member organizations of the dictatorship of the proletariat system while mobilizing large contributions by all forces within the population center, the Front on the basic level will surely assist in a capable manner in resolving the pressing problems being faced in order to stabilize and gradually improve the life of the people.

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THE DIVISION OF THE PERIOD OF TRANSITION INTO STAGES IN THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES

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[Article by Nguyen Ngoc Tuan]

[Text] Some Important Matters of Methodology Regarding the Period of Transition

The argument concerning the period of transition from capitalism to socialism is the basic, revolutionary argument in the economic doctrine of Karl Marx. This argument came into being very early in the first works of Marxism at the end of the 1840's. Back then, although Marx and Engels did not use the specific term "period of transition," their thinking concerning the necessity for a long period of time during which to make the shift from capitalism to socialism had been clearly formed. In his work "Critique of the Goethe Program (1875)," Marx, the first person to use the term "period of transition," stated that a special interval exists between capitalism and socialism, namely, the period of transition. He confirmed: the initial stage of communist society is the stage in which society has just been born of capitalist society following a long and painful labor.

Lenin also attached very much importance to this period. After the Russian proletariat seized political power and the period of transition became a matter of not only theoretical but practical importance as well, Lenin made priceless contributions to the development of the theory of Marx concerning this period.

Lenin often repeated the thinking of Marx concerning the "long and painful labor" accompanying the birth of the new society and stated that the complex difficulties of such a "long and painful labor" exist in all countries, not just in Russia. He wrote: "This period is, of necessity, a long, very long period in all countries, because, I repeat, each victory of the oppressed classes is met by one conspiracy after another by the oppressors to resist and overthrow the government of the oppressed classes." (1) He also said that the more backward a country is when it must--due to the vagaries of history--begin the socialist revolution, the more difficult it is for this country to shift from the old, capitalist relations to socialist relations." (2)

In May, 1919, in a letter congratulating the Hungarian working class on the establishment of the Soviet Republic of Hungary, Lenin said in addition: "The objective of the proletariat is to establish socialism. This objective cannot be immediately achieved; achieving it requires a rather lengthy period of transition...because reorganizing production is a difficult task, because time is needed to bring about fundamental changes within each field of life and because a long and bitter struggle must be waged before victory can be won over the powerful strength of petty bourgeois and bourgeois management habits."(3)

Lenin also stated that, even in the best case, the period of transition lasts for many years. He added: a revolution that follows on the heels of a war, that is closely associated with a war and breaks out during it is an "especially difficult birth." However, a newly born society "cannot perish and it will only grow and develop more slowly if its birth has been more painful and taken longer."(4)

Today, Western bourgeois economists maintain that a period of transition is only necessary for countries whose level of development is average or low, not for countries that have reached a high level of development, such as the United States, because their production forces have reached a level of development comparable to communist production relations. However, the fundamental arguments of Marxism-Leninism cited above and the realities of developed socialist construction in the Soviet Union have helped Soviet scientists come to realize that in the future even the United States will experience a period of transition when advancing to socialism. This is primarily because the basic task of the socialist revolution and socialist construction is not to simply develop production forces, but also to establish the new production relations. However, these production relations cannot emerge from within the old society, rather, it is necessary to overcome the inertia of old practices, train the new style worker, etc. Of course, here, the period of transition will be influenced by the high level of development of production forces as well as by historic and national characteristics.

The Division of the Period of Transition into Stages Within the Soviet Union and the Eastern European Socialist Countries

The development of society involves objective processes that unfold in accordance with definite laws, not random processes of an accidental nature nor can man, through will power or decree, skip these natural stages. K. Marx once wrote: when it has discovered the course charted by the natural laws that control its development, a society cannot skip over or abolish by decree its natural stages of development; it can, however, shorten the length of this gestation period and eliminate some of the pains involved in these stages. This important thinking of Karl Marx was recently stressed by Y.V. Andropov, general secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU: "We must accurately visualize where we are. To rush ahead would mean setting tasks that cannot be performed and stopping with what we have achieved would mean not making use of all that we have. Examining the development of our society in dynamic and realistic terms with all its capabilities and needs--this is the requirement we face now."(5)

The period of transition, as analyzed above, is a long or relatively long period during which countries must resolve a host of socio-economic problems that differ in nature and solve them in different orders of priority. This leads to the need to divide this period into small stages or different periods. According to Lenin, our policies during this period must be policies that are consistent with many small stages. And, all that is difficult in our guidance, both in the line we adopt and the art we employ, lies in finding ways to resolve the problems that are special to each stage.

Thus, by itself, a correct division of stages shows countries the continuous development of society and allows them to determine what belongs to the past, what belongs to the present, what belongs to the future and the relationship among the past, present and future. It enables them to recognize the characteristics of each stage, correctly define the tasks and special features of each period and, on this basis, adopt economic policies and management methods that are suited to each stage. For these reasons, Lenin considered the matter of dividing a period into stages to be the number one task, the first task of science in researching the development of the various socio-economic forms. At the same time, he also directed our attention to the need to take national traits, take unique characteristics into consideration but to bring to the forefront that which is common to all instead of worshipping these traits and characteristics.

In their works, Marx as well as Lenin only presented the most general stages in the formation of communist society, they did not define the small stages, the specific periods of development within each stage, especially during the period of transition to socialism. This is also easily understood because, in their times, it was difficult to see all the specific characteristics of each small stage, especially the milestones of development that the socialist countries must reach in each of these stages.

Today, it is even more necessary for countries to continue to research the division of this period into stages. It was only after they had experienced certain stages of development that the Soviet Union and eastern European socialist countries, on the basis of their actual experience and a review of their theory, confirmed that the period of transition is also divided into various small stages and that each country can, depending upon its specific conditions, divide this period into stages that are consistent with the country's characteristics.

However, one question that arises is: are there stages in the formation of socialism that are common to all countries that are making the transition to socialism? Because, in the process of socialist construction, all countries must resolve many similar problems and reach milestones that are, in principle, similar, on the basis of the arguments advanced by Marx concerning the two forms of development of capital, development in breadth and development in depth, as well as on the basis of the thinking of Lenin concerning socialization and the actual experiences of their country, many Soviet scientists have written that there are three fundamental stages in the period of transition that are common to all countries, stages which are based on the degree of development and consolidation of socialist production relations in both breadth and depth. At the same time, they also point out

that, in principle, the development of socialist production relations in breadth must be based on the development of these relations in depth. The economic milestones that mark the shift from one stage to the next are primarily based on the successful performance of the tasks that characterize each stage, on the characteristics of management methods...

These three fundamental stages are:

1. The stage of the emergence of socialist production relations and the initial formation of the new economic system.

The tasks that characterize this stage are: the nationalization of the key elements of the national economy (the large industrial enterprises, the banking and financial systems, foreign trade, communications-transportation, the railroads...and the post-telecommunications sector), the confiscation of cropland from landowners and the initial establishment of the new management system in order to directly manage the newly nationalized leading elements of the economy. In this stage, administrative measures play the main role. It is a stage of practice and training so that the long-term planning of the economy can be achieved in the next stage. Of necessity, the economic policies adopted during this stage must employ compulsory, non-economic methods because, if they do not, the basic means of production cannot be taken from the exploiting classes.

The objectives that must be met during this stage are: socialist production relations must be established within the key elements of the economy. The socialist economy, therefore, must occupy the dominant position from the very outset. The new management system must be initially established.

This stage began in the Soviet Union, where it lasted for more than 7 years, with the establishment of the revolutionary government in November, 1917, and concluded in 1924. In the people's democracies of eastern Europe, it lasted for only 3 to 4 years and concluded between 1947 and 1949.

2. The stage in which socialist production relations gain dominance and the base of socialism is built.

During this stage, the state accelerates socialist industrialization on a large scale, widely carries out the collectivization of small-scale producers...with a view toward establishing the base of socialism in three different areas: building material-technical bases suited to the level of development of production forces; establishing and solidifying the new production relations; and training the new style worker suited to the new production forces. These are also the three guidelines of socialization based on the viewpoint of Lenin. In this stage, wider use is made of economic methods and the relationships between goods and money.

The objectives that must be achieved are: the base of socialism must be established within the key positions and sectors of the economy (at the end of this stage, industry within the Soviet Union accounted for roughly 70 percent of the total value of industrial and agricultural output, with Group "A" constituting 60 percent) and the socialist economy, having achieved the

position of dominance during the preceding stage, must become the segment that has absolute control over the national economy (in the Soviet Union, this segment accounted for 99 percent of industry and 84.5 percent of agriculture).

This stage concluded in 1934 in the Soviet Union (that is, lasted for roughly 10 years); in 1956 in Bulgaria; in 1958 in the GDR and Czechoslovakia; in 1960 in Rumania; and in 1962 in Hungary.

3. The stage in which socialist production relations control the entire national economy and the construction of the base of socialism is completed.

The purpose of this stage is to complete the remaining basic economic tasks of the period of transition: completing the construction of the material-technical bases of socialism in their basic form, completing socialist industrialization and the collectivization of agriculture, perfecting the socio-economic management system...

At the end of this stage, the socialist economy must occupy the position of absolute and unlimited dominance within the entire national economy (in the Soviet Union, this segment accounted for 99 percent of fixed production capital, 99.1 percent of national income, 99.8 percent of industrial production, 98.5 percent of agricultural production and 100 percent of retail commerce) and the construction of the material-technical bases of socialism must be virtually completed. Originally, the milestone to be reached by production forces was usually characterized by a specific per capita output of certain primary industrial and agricultural products. However, for many years now, countries have been re-examining this characteristic and come to the conclusion that these specific figures can vary very widely from one country to the next at the conclusion of the period of transition. Moreover, that which was considered adequate at the conclusion of this period back then can be considered inadequate today, especially in view of the fact that the scientific-technological revolution is developing strongly and having an increasingly profound impact upon the construction of material-technical bases within each country. Therefore, these countries maintain that this milestone must be applied in the form of a general principle, namely, that by the conclusion of the period of transition, large-scale mechanized production must become the base of all sectors of the national economy.

The third stage concluded in the Soviet Union in 1937, in Bulgaria in 1968, in Hungary in 1962 and in the GDR in the early 1960's. The conclusion of this stage also marks the end of the period of transition. With it, these countries entered the new stage, the stage of developed socialist construction.

In the experience of the Soviet Union and the eastern European socialist countries, the division of stages presented above is only of relative value because, in practice, it is not always possible to clearly determine in which stage a country is. The following situation is a possibility: from the perspective of the development of production relations in breadth, a country might be at the end of stage two but, from the perspective of development in depth, it might still be in stage one. This occurs when a country carries out rapid development in breadth but does not promptly strengthen production

relations by means of achievements recorded in industrialization or in the building of material-technical bases. Clearly, such development does not provide the basis for declaring that the country has entered a new stage. This argument is in the nature of a principle because, in the final analysis, the level of development of the new production relations is determined by the level of development of the material base. Only on the basis of production forces reaching a high level of development can countries successfully build socialism.

The Standards that Mark the Conclusion of the Period of Transition

In the last 1930's, Soviet books and newspapers used the concept "the virtual completion of socialist construction" to characterize the general standards that mark the conclusion of the period of transition. Recently, this concept has been replaced by another concept that has achieved rather universal acceptance in all countries: the completion of the construction of the base of socialism. Viewed in broad terms, this base consists mainly of the following:

Economically: an economy that consists of many different segments no longer exists and there is but one economy, the socialist economy. Thus, at that point in time, there is within the economy only one type of production relations and only one system of laws that are homogeneous, a system called an organic system. Although the conditions exist for this system of laws to have a strong impact, its impact is still limited in certain respects. These limitations can only be completely eliminated when the construction of developed socialism has been completed.

Private production might still exist but its scope is small, its forces are small and decentralized and it does not have the strength to become an independent segment within the new economic system.(6)

The subsidiary household economy continues to be maintained and continues to exist, even under developed socialism. According to a number of Soviet economists, the possibility that the subsidiary household economy will remain in existence even longer than ownership by the state farms cannot be precluded. Furthermore, its development is encouraged by the socialist country because it is a form of the socialist economy and supplements this economy. The main features of the material-technical bases of socialism must be in place but not all of these bases need be in existence nor is it necessary for those in existence to be complete. Large-scale, mechanized production must exist and production by means of large machines must be the predominant form of production. As a result, the life of the people undergoes substantive change: unemployment is eliminated, rationing is no longer in effect, essential consumer goods are relatively plentiful, etc.

Politically: the dictatorship of the proletariat has been solidified and the socialist democratic system has been developed. The question "who triumphs over whom" has been resolved with the victory of socialism. Class antagonisms no longer exist; however, the possibility of a major mistake in line or policy, even under the circumstances of socialism, causing its inherent

contradictions--non-antagonistic contradictions--to become antagonistic contradictions does exist.

Socially: exploitation has been abolished and opposition between the cities and rural areas, between mental laborers and manual laborers has been eliminated but differences between them still remain.

Culturally and ideologically: socialist ideology and the Marxist-Leninist world view occupy the dominant position within the thinking of each person as well as in the spiritual life of the people.

In summary, by the time that the period of transition concludes, countries have only built the bases of socialism. Socialism still does not have all of its highest forms of organization; the remnants of the old society linger in economic relations, ethics and the intellect of man; and production forces have still not reached a truly high level of development so that all tasks involved in building and improving life can be fully performed. In other words, at the conclusion of the period of transition, socialism is still not able to develop upon its own base. As Marx once pointed out, in the low stage of communism, we have relations "not with communist society that has developed upon its own base, but, conversely, with a society born of capitalist society, consequently, in its economic relations, ethics and intellect, it still carries remnants of the old society." (7) Therefore, much more time is needed for socialism to reach the high level of development that Lenin called developed socialism or perfect socialism.

Although our country and the socialist countries of Europe differ in terms of our historical starting point, nationalities, geography and so forth, the theory and experience presented above regarding the division of the period of transition into stages will certainly help up establish additional bases on which to better define the various stages and the primary economic elements of each stage--most importantly the initial stage--so that we can distinguish that which is universal from that which is unique with a view toward shortening the process of theoretical research on the division of the period of transition into stages within our country.

FOOTNOTES

1. V.I. Lenin: "Collected Works," Progress Publishers, Moscow, 1977, Volume 36, pp 549-550.
2. Ibid., p 6.
3. Ibid., Volume 38, p 464.
4. Ibid., Volume 36, p 593.
5. Y.V. Andropov: "The Doctrine of Karl Marx and Some Matters Regarding Socialist Construction in the Soviet Union," TAP CHI CONG SAN, Hanoi, 1983, No 5, p 21.

6. Among the socialist countries in Europe, only the Soviet Union did not have a private economy at the conclusion of the period of transition. In the other countries, the private economy is still being maintained to a certain degree. For example, in 1976, the economy of private farmers in Hungary still accounted for 6.1 percent of total cropland; in the GDR: 5.6 percent; in Rumania: 9.4 percent; and in Czechoslovakia: 5.3 percent.
7. K. Marx and F. Engels: "Collected Works," Russian version, Volume 19, p 18.

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SOME URGENT POPULATION QUESTIONS

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 8, Aug 84 pp 35-39

[Article by Dang Thu, Ph.D.]

[Text] As far back as 1881, Engels advanced the idea that there must be a limit upon population growth, saying that when communist society is compelled to control human reproduction, it will be no more difficult for society to achieve this than it is for society to control the production of a material product.

Most importantly, population growth must be consistent with the extent to which natural resources and arable land have been developed, with the level of economic development and with the need to raise living standards. Of course, it is also dependent to a large degree upon society's mode of production. Today, there is general agreement in the world that mankind must soon give attention to stabilizing the world's population, which means that each woman should only give birth to an average of two or slightly more than two children.

The civilized countries of the world have quickly managed to stop or nearly stop population growth. In some countries, women have been bearing an average of two or slightly more than two children for 50 years:

At present, the average woman in the GDR gives birth to 1.7 children; in West Germany: 1.4 children; in Sweden: 1.5 children; in Hungary: 2.0 children; in Cuba: 2.0 children; in Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and Poland: 2.2 children; and in the Soviet Union: 2.3 children.

They have controlled births to the point where parents are only producing enough children to replace them, thereby allowing the majority of their energies to be devoted to building a prosperous and happy life.

There was once a time when the average life span of humans was only 20 years. If, in view of this fact, a woman did not give birth on the average of 8 to 10 times during her lifetime, mankind would not have survived. Today, now that the average life span has been raised to 60-75 years, a woman must give attention early in her life to giving birth to approximately 2 children.

Whereas population growth was once balanced by a high deathrate and a high birthrate, today, efforts must be directed toward balancing low deathrates with low birthrates.

During the past 2 centuries, up until the mid 20th century, the population of the European countries only grew at the annual rate of 0.6 percent. The labor force grew at the same annual rate and virtually the entire labor force was employed.

During the past 30 or 40 years, the population of the Third World countries has been growing at the rate of 3 to 4 percent annually. The labor force of these countries has grown at the same rate. As a result, their economies have been unable to fully absorb available labor and, in many countries, surplus labor amounts to as much as 30 percent of the labor force.

One century or one-half century ago, when the world's population was not large, much fertile land was still available, science and technology had not developed, labor productivity was not high and the living standards of countries varied widely, population growth and growth of the labor force were not matters of concern. However, since the 1950's, world population has grown rapidly, much less fertile land has been available, the scientific and technological revolution has developed vigorously and machines at many places have produced profits 10 times higher than the use of simple human labor and labor productivity that is hundreds of times higher in some countries than in others. In such a situation, increases in the population at places where the population is dense and labor productivity is low are extremely detrimental.

Several decades ago, growth of the population and labor force at the rate of 1 percent per year was reasonable because it assisted economic development. Today, however, in countries in which the population has already exploded, even a 1 percent increase in the population each year is disadvantageous.

Many countries that have a large labor force are adversely affected in many areas. Japan, for example, while it does not lack capital or technology, does lack land and has a large agricultural labor force, consequently, labor productivity within agriculture in Japan during the years from 1969 to 1971 equalled only one twenty-fourth of the labor productivity within agriculture in New Zealand. Tunisia, a country whose national income per capita exceeds 1,000 dollars, a country that is capable of totally mechanizing agriculture, had to make sacrifices and limit the extent of mechanization so that it could create jobs for 80,000 agricultural laborers. At many places, large labor forces are posing very large obstacles to the application of new technologies. According to the formula used to calculate labor:
$$L = \frac{C}{V \cdot T}$$

labor (L) increases at a rate proportional to increases in investment capital (C) and decreases at a rate proportional to increases in wages (V) and technological development (T).

In order for a country that has a large labor force to achieve full employment, it must increase its investment capital (C) but capital is what it lacks. This is a contradiction.

A poor country that has a low standard of living must increase real wages but increases in wages (V) cause a corresponding decrease in labor (L). This is the second contradiction.

A backward country that wants to catch up to the advanced countries must pursue technological development (T) but lacks capital, lacks sufficient technology to equip the worker and labor (L) decreases as technological development (T) increases. This is the third contradiction.

Clearly, rapid growth of the labor force is disadvantageous.

Thirty years ago, national income per capita was only 10 to 15 times higher in the developed countries than in the underdeveloped countries. Today, it is 50 times higher. A mere 2 percent increase in the per capita national income of the developed countries equals the entire per capita national income of the underdeveloped countries. In 1980, the World Bank predicted that national income per capita in the developed countries will increase from more than 8,000 dollars (1978) to 24,500 dollars (2010) while per capita national income in the underdeveloped countries will only increase from 200 dollars (1978) to 450 dollars (2010). Clearly, the gap between the per capita national incomes within these two groups of countries is growing. If the populations of the already densely populated underdeveloped countries continue to grow, this gap could be as large as 100 times by the end of this century and 200 times by the year 2050. To allow such a situation to occur would be an intolerable historic mistake!

In the underdeveloped countries, increasing the output of grain and reducing the rate of population growth must always be considered the two most important jobs of one's country, two jobs that must be placed on a par with each other.

In a country in which a population explosion has occurred, spending 1 dong on birth control yields 100 dong for investment in economic development. Very detailed calculations show that in a country in which national income is rising at the rate of 6 percent and population growth is 3 percent per year, national income per capita increases at the rate of 3 percent annually and increases six times in 60 years. If national income increases at 6 percent per year and population growth is 0, per capita national income will increase 32 times within the space of 60 years. If national income increases at the rate of 8 percent per year and population growth is 0, per capita national income will increase 100 times in 60 years. Thus, while birth control measures do not yield very large returns over a period of several years, within the space of 50 to 60 years, they increase the rate of economic development 5 to 10 times. Therefore, in order for a country that, as Council of Ministers Chairman Pham Van Dong still says, is "up to its neck in people," to rapidly develop its economy and raise its standard of living, it must urgently make strong investments in birth control and stop the growth of the people, the sooner the better.

In a number of countries in which the population grew rapidly for several consecutive decades after which the birthrate dropped to an average of 1 child per woman, the population is still increasing each year. Some countries that have encouraged each woman to only give birth to 1 child in the hope of

stopping the growth of the population in 30 years. In Singapore today, where the average woman gives birth to 1.8 children, they hope to stop the growth of the population in 50 years.

In our country if, by the end of this century, we achieve the average of each woman giving birth to only 2 children, the population will continue to grow for 70 more years. Therefore, the standard of 2 children per woman is actually high compared to the need to rapidly develop our country's economy.

A husband and wife have the right to have as many children as they want. However, the right of children to be raised well, to receive an education and to have a suitable job when they grow up is higher than the right of parents to have children. And, the right of each person in society to a better, secure life must also be respected. Thus, in every society, there is a need to teach couples to take the rights of everyone in society into consideration when having children.

No progress can be made without paying a price. To move rapidly forward, we must quickly change the backward concepts, habits, social attitudes and so forth that exist regarding the matters of family, the number of children in a family and population. Even taking administrative measures today is necessary in order to achieve a less difficult and more prosperous life tomorrow.

The matters raised above show the special importance of limiting births in order to eventually stop the growth of the population. Every country in the world must concern itself with this matter if it truly wants to achieve a life of comfort and happiness.

Vietnam, which now has nearly 60 million people, has the 13th largest population in the world but ranks among the lowest countries in the world in terms of national income per capita. During the past 30 to 40 years, our country's population has become larger than the populations of France, Italy and Great Britain and, by the end of 1985, will be larger than the population of West Germany. Then, our country will rank 12th in the world in population.

Our country's population continues to increase each year. Deserving of attention is the fact that the population continued to steadily grow during the wars of resistance against France and the United States.

On the average, our country's population grows by 1.3 million each year. If grain output does not increase by 400,000 tons per year, the amount of grain per capita during the next year will be less. This is something that we cannot accept.

In 1963, as a result of recognizing the special importance of limiting births and reducing the rate of population growth, our party and state launched the "planned parenthood campaign." The annual birthrate has declined from 4.6 percent in 1960 to 3 percent today. The deathrate has declined from 1.2 percent in 1960 to 0.7 percent today. Thus, although we have achieved some results, they do not meet the demands of the country's situation because many more children are being born each year and the population continues to grow each year. Specifically, 1,380,000 children were born in 1960 but 1,680,000

were born in 1982. The population grew by 1,020,000 in 1960 and 1,028,000 in 1982.

At present, the birthrate in our country is lower than the Third World average (3 percent compared to 3.1 percent) and the deathrate in our country is lower than the Third World average by an even larger amount (0.7 percent compared to 1.1 percent). Therefore, although our birthrate and deathrate are lower, the rate of population growth in our country is higher than the Third World average (2.2 percent compared to 2-2.1 percent).

In 1962, the average Vietnamese woman of child bearing age, married and unmarried, gave birth to 6.2 children during her lifetime; today, this figure is 4.5. Although this number has declined, we are still far from achieving the target of 2 children per woman.

At present, there are 600,000 women 24 years of age in our country. If each woman (24 years of age) only gives birth to 1 child, 600,000 children will still be born each year and, if we subtract the 400,000 deaths that occur in our country each year, the population will still grow by 200,000 per year.

The number of births per year now stands at 1,680,000, four times the number of deaths. In order to soon stabilize the population, the number of births must be brought down to equal the number of deaths.

The number of children less than 16 years of age in our country is very high, 45 percent of the population; meanwhile, in Sweden and Great Britain, children of this age only account for 22-23 percent of the population, or one-half of the percentage in Vietnam. Persons between 20 and 49 years of age constitute 26.4 percent of Vietnam's population but 39.3 percent of Sweden's population, half again as much as in Vietnam. In other words, one adult between the ages of 20 and 49 in our country must support three times as many children as an adult of the same age in Sweden.

The number of women of child bearing age in our country is increasing at the rate of roughly 3.5 percent per year. Therefore, if we maintain the present birthrate, more than 3 million children will be born each year as we approach the year 2000. To bring the number of births down to only 1 million by the year 2000 through family planning, we must reduce the birthrate to less than one-third of what it is now.

We are very weak in the area of propaganda and education regarding population growth. Very many persons do not understand, and therefore do not support, the need to limit births and they also lack knowledge of birth control measures. Today, only 30 percent of married couples of child bearing age practice birth control.

If our effort to limit the number of births continues to proceed as slowly as it has over the past several years, we will be unable to achieve the target of reducing the rate of population growth to 1.7 percent by 1985. If we intensify this effort, our country's population will be 75 million by the year 2000; if we do not, our population will exceed 80 million and possibly be as high as 93 million by year 2000.

The number of persons of work age in our country rose from 28 million in 1983 to 29 million in 1984 and will reach 46 million by the year 2000. This figure of 46 million persons of work age by the year 2000 is an actual figure, not a forecast, because the children being born today will be of work age in 1999.

Social labor productivity is national income divided by the total number of persons working. In many countries, labor productivity is rising rapidly as a result of advances in equipment and technology. Our country is densely populated, does not have many raw materials, lacks capital and equipment and its labor force is steadily growing, consequently, social labor productivity will remain low for a long period of time, and it will be difficult to quickly raise the real wage and the standard of living, thus making the disadvantages of rapid growth in the population and labor force even more obvious.

Although our party and state concerned themselves with parenthood at a rather early date in order to reduce population growth to a reasonable rate, this work has mainly been entrusted to the public health sector. Although it has made efforts, the public health sector does not have the ability to take on such a large and multi-faceted problem as the population problem. Moreover, the public health sector has not received appropriate investments, it lacks sufficient measures and its specialized planning capabilities are limited.

The various levels and sectors, from the central level to the installations, do not have a full or common understanding of the population issue. The state has yet to establish a single, effective apparatus to promote population work, planned parenthood and propaganda and education regarding the population effort, to conduct population research, compile population statistics, evaluate the situation, compile rosters...

Appropriate attention has also not been given to scientific research regarding the population.

The actual situation outlined above regarding population work in our country shows that limiting the number of births and reducing population growth to a reasonable rate consistent with economic development are urgent requirements, are the pressing jobs facing our society today.

As stated in Council of Ministers' Directive Number 29//HDBT of August, 1981, reducing the rate of population growth to 1.7 percent by 1985 is a mandatory target. However, achieving this target will not be at all easy because the work involved is very complex, there is very much work to do and we have been encountering more than a few difficulties in the performance of this work. However, regardless of how many difficulties might be encountered, we have no alternative but to succeed in this effort.

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STUDIES: THE LAWS OF THE SOCIALIST REVOLUTION AND SOCIALIST CONSTRUCTION--
DEVELOPING THE PLANNED NATIONAL ECONOMY WITH A VIEW TOWARD BUILDING SOCIALISM,
COMMUNISM AND RAISING THE STANDARD OF LIVING OF WORKERS

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 8, Aug 84 pp 40-46

[Article by Quyet Tien]

[Text] As we know, there must be specific ratios in the distribution of means of production and labor among the various sectors of the national economy in order for each form of society to survive and develop. However, under capitalism, the ratios necessary for this development of production can only be established in a spontaneous manner through constant changes and imbalance, through crises of surplus production capacity that are cyclical in nature. These crises reflect the fundamental contradictions of capitalism. As long as capitalist production relations exist, ungoverned competition and production accompanied by economic crises will continue despite all efforts by the bourgeoisie in planning production within each of their factories and corporations. Not even the capitalist nationalization of individual large enterprises and corporations or the establishment of national or multinational monopolies can eliminate ungoverned production on a society-wide scale because capitalist production relations have still not been abolished within society. The only thing that happens is that as capitalist production relations are pushed toward their breaking point, they create better objective conditions for the birth of the socialist mode of production.

When socialism is achieved, the ungoverned nature of production is corrected. It is replaced by the planned regulation of production throughout society in accordance with the needs of all society as well as the needs of each person.

Engels once wrote: "The proletariat seizes social power and, with this power, turns the means of social production taken from the bourgeoisie into public property. By this action, the proletariat liberates the means of production from their innate character as capital and gives full sway to the social nature of the means of production. A system of social production based on a predetermined plan then becomes a possibility."(1)

Thus, the public ownership of the means of production established by the dictatorship of the proletariat results in both the necessity and the ability

to develop the national economy in a planned manner for the sake of the interests of all society.

Whereas private ownership of the means of production divides commodity producers, be they farmers, handicraftsmen or capitalists, public ownership of the instruments of production ties very many enterprises together within a unified national economy within which they serve a common goal. Without a common plan to unify the activities of all society and insure that each sector, each enterprise and the entire national economy develops in accordance with the necessary ratios, large-scale, socialist production cannot be developed. Lenin once stressed that the major task of the socialist revolution is: "To turn the entire state economic apparatus into a single, large apparatus, into an economic system in which hundreds of millions of persons are guided by a single plan."(2)

Thus, the planned development of the national economy for the purposes of building socialism and raising the standard of living of workers is an economic law of socialism.

The law of the planned development of the national economy demands that all economic sectors develop under the unified and planned leadership of society. There must be balance among the various components and factors of the national economy because, according to Lenin, constant balance that is consciously maintained is a special characteristic of socialism. This law also demands the fullest, most reasonable and most effective use possible of human, material and financial resources and the continuous expansion of production in order to meet the rising material and cultural needs of the people.

To insure balance within the national economy, it is necessary to have: a) a high rate of development and the necessary ratios within the development of the sectors of the national economy and even within the development of the components of each economic sector; b) correct ratios between production and consumption, between accumulation and consumption, between material and financial resources and between the total monetary income of the people and the volume of goods and services for the people; c) a proper relationship between the existing number of cadres and the cadre needs of the national economy; d) a rational distribution of socialist production based on the comprehensive development of economic areas, a broader division of labor and specialization and cooperation in production among areas on the scope of the entire national economy.

It must be understood that a proper ratio between the production of means of production and the production of consumer goods is one of the most important ratios in the development of the national economy. To establish the proper ratio between these two sectors of the social production system, attention must be given to the requirements of the law of giving priority to the development of the production of the means of production.

The establishment of a proper ratio between industry and agriculture is also of extremely important significance in the development of the national economy. To correctly establish this ratio, we must insure that industry plays the dominant role and is capable of equipping agriculture with advanced

technology and supplying industrial goods to the countryside; on the other hand, we must develop upon the very important role played by agriculture in supplying grain and food to the workers and people of the cities and supplying raw materials to light industry and agricultural products for exportation. Of course, the balanced development of production also requires that correct ratios be established among the sectors within industry and agriculture as well.

A correct relationship must also exist between production and consumption. This means that the volume of goods consumed by individuals and the volume of public services must coincide with the rising monetary income of the working people. And, correct ratios must be established between developing the production of consumer goods and the development of the circulation of goods.

To be correct, the ratios between the accumulation of capital and consumption must insure a continuous rise in the level of socialist production while insuring that the material and cultural lives of the working people are continuously improved.

The planned development of the national economy demands that production be rationally distributed within the country in order to raise labor productivity, improve the welfare of the people and consolidate the strength of the socialist state. This rational distribution of socialist production must be based on the following principles:

First, production must be brought closer to sources of raw materials, electricity and fuels and be closely tied to industrial and agricultural product marketing areas with a view toward making better use of natural resources and avoiding transportation over very long distances, which is irrational.

Secondly, a planned distribution of labor by territory must be established among economic zones and coordinated with the comprehensive development of the economy within these zones.

Thirdly, there must be a planned distribution of the country's industry by territory to insure the establishment of new cities and industrial centers within formerly backward agricultural areas so that agriculture is brought closer to industry in order to abolish the fundamental differences between the cities and the countryside.

Fourthly, it is necessary to end the true economic inequality existing among the various nationalities and rapidly develop the economy within the once backward ethnic areas with a view toward strengthening the unity and cooperation among the nationalities.

The rational distribution of industry and agriculture on a nationwide scale demands the development of rational distribution of the entire transportation sector, the sector which Marx considered to be the fourth most important material production sector of society behind the mining industry, the processing industry and agriculture.

The distribution of socialist production also demands the planned distribution of labor among the various sectors of the economy and areas of the country in a way that insures that the country's manpower is used in the most rational manner possible, social labor productivity is raised and production develops at a more rapid rate.

Of course, when faced with the threat of aggression by an external enemy, the need to strengthen the national defense system must also be taken into consideration in planned economic development within the socialist countries.

Today, now that the world socialist economic system has come into being and developed, the scope of the law of planned economic development is broader. This law is having an increasingly strong impact upon the economic relations among the countries within the world socialist system.

The above are the main characteristics of the law of the planned development of the socialist national economy.

The law of the planned development of the national economy creates objective capabilities for the planned development of the socialist economy. Converting these capabilities into reality requires conscious actions taken by man through planning. Herein lies the tremendous importance of the party's scientific leadership of economic and social development, lies the organizational and economic role of the socialist state.

Leading the national economy in accordance with a plan involves making projections. Scientific projections must be based on knowledge of objective economic laws and on the needs being faced in the development of society's material life.

Therefore, planning is not only an economic process, it is a scientific process as well. In order for planning to have a good impact upon economic development, it must correctly reflect the requirements of the law of the planned development of the national economy. Moreover, it must be based on applying all the other economic laws of socialism.

What, therefore, is the relationship between planning and the various economic laws? Concisely stated it is that within planning, the law of planned economic development is applied to determine the ratios that must be established among the components and areas of the national economy.

The fundamental economic law is applied to set the guidelines and tasks of the plan for economic and social development during each specific time period, determine the volume and structure of the resources needed to perform the tasks of the plan and establish balance between goals and these resources.

The law of value is applied to establish the material resource norms and value norms of the plan, most importantly to plan national income.

The law of distribution in accordance with labor is applied to plan personal consumption and consumption by society, plan wages, plan the various incentive funds, etc.

The law of increased labor productivity is applied to formulate the plan on the rate of growth of labor productivity and determine by how much consumption can be increased as labor productivity rises. In particular, this law is applied in planning the application of scientific and technological advances and the mechanization of production as well as in planning which percentage of the population will participate in social production.

The law of socialist expanded reproduction is applied in giving priority to the development of the production of the means of production over the production of consumer goods. Attention must be given to the fact that the economic laws mentioned above do not exist or have an impact separately; to the contrary, they exist as a system of closely related laws and have a coordinated impact upon the planned development of the socialist economy.

When engaged in planning, there must be adherence to the following principles: the principle of party involvement, the principle of the legal nature of the plan, the principle of democratic centralism, the principle of a scientific approach, the principle of selecting the elements of basic importance, the principle of coordinating planning by sector and planning by territory, etc.

The principle of party involvement demands that all of this work, from the formulation of a plan to its implementation, must be placed under the leadership of the party. The plan must faithfully reflect the economic and social development line of the party (as a result of which it becomes the second platform of the party) and must vividly reflect the spirit of the party: everything for the prosperity and strength of the fatherland, for the happiness of the people.

The principle of the legal nature of the plan demands that all sectors and levels, all production and business installations fully implement the state plan because, once approved by the state, the plan assumes the nature of a law and is binding upon everyone.

The principle of democratic centralism is expressed in planning as well as in the establishment and operation of the agencies that formulate plans. Planning must be carried out under the unified guidance of a center; at the same time, it must provide for the display of a high degree of dynamism and creativity by the sectors, localities and installations, by all the working people in keeping with the spirit of socialist democracy. On the other hand, all agencies that formulate plans, from those on the upper level to those on the lower level, are established on the basis of the principle of democratic centralism and practice a methodology that is the same throughout the country.

The principle of a scientific approach demands that planning be carried out on the basis of applying the objective economic laws and be consistent with the requirements and capabilities of the country during each time period.

The principle of selecting the basic elements demands that the plan accentuate the most important sectors that determine the successful completion of the entire national economic plan.

The principle of coordinating planning by sector and planning by territory is an objective necessity because every economic-technical sector is distributed within a certain territory and, as a result, has certain ties to this territory. The coordination of planning by sector and planning by territory insures that these sectors develop while guaranteeing that the territory develops its full potentials.

Compared to the capitalist economy, the planned economy of socialism is markedly superior. This superiority manifests itself in the following: the planned economy continuously develops at a high rate while the capitalist economy is constantly beset by crises of a cyclical nature; the planned economy insures the full and most rational use possible of the labor and sources of wealth of the country while the capitalist economy cannot avoid unemployment and a very large waste of the manpower and material resources of society; the planned economy insures that science and technology develop in a planned manner and meet the requirements of the national economy while, under capitalism, technological development is uneven and the imbalance within production steadily increases.

The history of the 10 five-year plans of the Soviet Union show us the huge strides that the Soviet Union has made in the planned development of the socialist economy. Through its 10 five-year plans, the Soviet Union has become the leading power in the world, become a country with powerful economic and military might, a country in which the life of the people has been constantly improved. Following the successful completion of the 10th five-year plan (1976-1980), the national income earned in 5 days in the Soviet Union equalled the national income earned during the entire year of 1928, the year before the first 5-year plan. The Soviet Union, which produces one-fifth of the world's industrial output, ranks first in the world in the production of steel, petroleum, iron and manganese ores, coke, mineral fertilizers, cement, steam and electric powered locomotives and several other products. Whereas the Soviet Union was once 50 to 100 years behind the developed countries of the West, today, production in many areas of Soviet industry equals the combined production of three or four developed capitalist countries and exceeds the United States.

The other socialist countries have also achieved a high rate of economic development and successfully completed their plans on socialist construction.

The successes that have been achieved in the establishment of economic ties among the countries of the socialist community have proven the tremendous capabilities that the planned socialist economy creates for developing production and carrying out cultural development.

The realities of the planned economic development of the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist countries have provided us with much valuable experience, the most significant among which are: making improvements to planning along lines that increase the scientific nature of the plan and emphasizing the role of the long-term plan; implementing the principle of democratic centralism within planning more thoroughly by coordinating planning from the central level with enabling the localities and production installations to display greater initiative and creativity; coordinating

administrative measures with economic tools, making widespread use of the various economic levers within planning, establishing the correct relationship between the plan and the market, etc.

In our country, the law of planned economic development appeared and began to have an effect as soon as the North entered the stage of the socialist revolution and the socialist economy came into being. However, the scope of this law's impact back then was still narrow because the socialist economy was still small.

However, our party and state rather successfully applied this law in formulating and implementing economic plans in the North, including the first 5-year plan (1961-1965). After the country was reunified and began the advance to socialism, we implemented the second 5-year plan (1976-1980) and are now in the midst of implementing the third 5-year plan (1981-1985). The implementation of the above mentioned plans has yielded important results: strengthening and consolidating the socialist North, thereby allowing it to fulfill its decisive role in the victory of the resistance against the United States for national salvation while improving the standard of living of the people of the North; stimulating socialist construction and socialist transformation throughout the country and, at the same time, making important contributions to the victories won over the two wars of aggression waged by the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists and their lackeys in Kampuchea.

Besides the achievements mentioned above, we have committed a number of shortcomings in the management and planning of the economy, such as the following: being impetuous and setting production and construction targets that are too high, as was the case at the start of the third 5-year plan; being conservative and slow to act instead of being determined to develop upon the country's advantages and capabilities; practicing bureaucratic centralism and thwarting the initiative and creativity of the localities and production installations but being lax in management and planning, allowing departmentalism, partialism, localism and so forth to occur.

To correct these shortcomings, we must thoroughly implement the resolution of the 5th Party Congress: "We must bring about a change in planning in the direction of having all management levels, the central level, the local level and the installation, formulate plans, formulating plans from the basic level upward and closely tying the plan to accounting and socialist business. We must attach very much importance to improving and strengthening the management of the implementation of plans and be determined to provide and coordinate the forces and means needed for tasks and elements of key importance. We must closely coordinate the three different types of measures, economic, administrative and educational, with importance attached to economic measures. We must promptly promulgate a number of urgently needed leverage policies in order to encourage production and increased productivity and insure balance among the three interests. We must revamp the management apparatus, improve work methods and provide for a greater flow of economic information. We must promote the socialist emulation movement, making it a spirited and steadfast movement."

If we succeed in these efforts, our country's planned economy will surely reach a new and strong level of development and provide good support of building and defending the fatherland and raising the material and cultural living standards of the working people.

FOOTNOTES

1. F. Engels: "Anti-Duhring," Su That Publishing House, Hanoi, 1960, p 479.
2. V.I. Lenin: "Collected Works," Progress Publishers, Moscow, 1977, Volume 36, p 8.

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EXCHANGE OF OPINIONS ON BUILDING THE DISTRICT AND STRENGTHENING THE DISTRICT LEVEL: BUILDING THE DISTRICT AND STRENGTHENING THE DISTRICT LEVEL IN ORDER TO GRADUALLY ADVANCE NGHIA BINH'S AGRICULTURE TO LARGE-SCALE SOCIALIST PRODUCTION

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 8, Aug 84 pp 47-51

[Article by To Dinh Co, chairman of the Nghia Binh Provincial People's Committee]

[Text] Nghia Binh, a coastal province of central Vietnam, measures 1.1 million hectares and has a population of nearly 2.2 million, 600,000 of whom are working people.

In the resistance against the United States for national salvation, Nghia Binh suffered very heavy damage. Two-thirds of its villages and many hamlets were totally destroyed. The majority of forested areas were sprayed with herbicides by the enemy, which defoliated and killed the trees and turned these areas into barren hills and mountains. More than one-third of the province's farmland was lying fallow. Some 600,000 persons were moved into concentration zones by the Americans and the puppets...

Following liberation day, under the leadership of the Party Central Committee, Nghia Binh quickly stabilized the situation, healed the wounds of the war, restored and developed production and began to serve the daily needs of the people. At the same time, it built the apparatus of the people's government on the various levels, from the basic level to the district and provincial levels and established socialist state-operated economic organizations, such as commerce, supply, transportation, finance and banking organizations and agro-forestry technical stations and farms. Beginning in mid-1977, the province actively carried out socialist transformation within agriculture and completed its agricultural cooperativization in late 1979, with 420 cooperatives in the lowlands and 464 production collectives in the mountains. The province has carried out the socialist transformation of private industry and commerce and established small industry and handicraft cooperatives, joint public-private enterprises and so forth.

The birth of the state-operated economic organizations and collective economic organizations (primarily the agricultural cooperatives and small industry and handicraft cooperatives) and the existence of the household economy faced

Nghia Binh with the objective need to reorganize production at installations and within the scope of its districts in order to achieve centralization, specialization, cooperation and federation in production, equip with technology, build and effectively utilize material-technical bases and consolidate the new production relations. If the district is not closely linked and tied to installations, the installations and the district cannot develop the potentials that lie in their arable land, labor and trade sector well in order to produce many products for society and improve the life of the people, cannot achieve specialized farming or intensive cultivation in production, cannot equip with or effectively utilize material-technical bases and cannot link agriculture to industry or production to distribution-circulation. In other words, the requirement of gradually advancing agriculture to large-scale socialist production demands the implementation of the Central Committee's policy on building the district and strengthening the district level, demands that we closely link the district to the installation and use the district as the important base for performing the specific jobs involved in advancing Nghia Binh's agriculture one step closer to large-scale socialist production.

Today, having spent the past 3 years implementing the policy on building the district and strengthening the district level, Nghia Binh has established various types of districts that have a relatively rational economic structure.

The entire province has only one district that has an agro-industrial economic structure. It is a small, densely populated district that has only 560 square meters of cropland per capita. This district is endeavoring to produce twice as much grain in 1990 as it did in 1982 (at present, grain output per capita is only 380 kilograms). The value of the district's small industry and handicraft output will account for 40 percent of the total value of the district's agricultural and industrial output. From 2.5 to 3 tons of paddy will be sold to the state per hectare of farmland. The value of the district's export goods will rise to 30 million dong (at 1970 fixed prices). This district has already produced an average of 460 kilograms of grain per capita (1983); sold 2.5 tons of grain to the state per hectare; and raised the value of its small industry and handicraft output to 46 percent of the total value of its agricultural and industrial output.

Three districts have an agro-forestry-industrial economic structure, all of which are working to rapidly increase their output of both grain and annual industrial crops, strongly develop cattle production in order to produce much beef and leather and strongly develop afforestation and the production of the various types of products made available through afforestation.

Nine districts have an agro-forestry-fishing-industrial economic structure. Their targets for 1990 are: raising grain output 30 to 50 percent compared to 1982; rapidly increasing the amount of area under cultivation and the output of perennial industrial crops (such as coconuts and cashews); harvesting marine products for exportation (one district has the target of exporting more than 2 million rubles/dollars in marine products per year); mobilizing from 1.5 to 2 tons of paddy per hectare; and raising the value of the output of small industry and the handicraft trades to 20 to 29 percent of the value of the district agricultural, forestry, fishing and industrial output.

Seven districts have a forestry-agricultural-industrial economic structure. Their targets are to resolve the grain problem locally within the first several years; develop forestry by coordinating agriculture and forestry; accelerate the planting of perennial industrial crops, especially cinnamon, three-needle pine and black pepper; strongly develop cattle production; and harvest subsidiary forest products to make pharmaceuticals and supply raw materials for the development of handicraft trades in a manner based on the specific situation of each district and for sale outside the district.

The economic structure of the two cities within the province has been established as an industrial-agricultural structure.

Each type district has established an economic structure that is consistent with its characteristics and strengths but all are closely tied to the area economies of the province. The rice growing area consists of 114 cooperatives and measures nearly 30,000 hectares. The rice and subsidiary food crop growing area consists of 150 cooperatives and measures 47,000 hectares. The industrial crop and rice-subsidiary food crop growing area consists of 115 cooperatives and 5 state farms and measures 30,000 hectares. The mountain afforestation area consists of 27 cooperatives, 363 production collectives and 4 state farms and measures 30,000 hectares. The coastal rush and rice growing area consists of 19 cooperatives and measures 8,300 hectares. Two-thirds of the province's agricultural cooperatives have small industry and handicraft businesses. Many cooperatives in the mountains have been assigned land and forests to manage and use. In addition, the coastal districts also have ocean fishing cooperatives and cooperative teams.

During the past several years, marked changes have occurred in economic development, especially the development of agricultural production throughout the province, as a result of each district establishing a rational economic structure for itself and establishing correct production guidelines and adopting yearly plans on the basis of this structure. As a result, our province is now meeting the needs of the locality for grain and fulfilling its obligation to sell grain to the state (in the past, the province had to annually request 300,000 tons of grain from the central level). The establishment by the districts of relatively rational, specific plans for economic and social development has opened the prospect that, by 1990, Nghia Binh Province will have 100,000 hectares under the intensive cultivation of rice, 20,000 hectares of sugarcane for the production of 100,000 tons of sugar of all types, from 20,000 to 30,000 hectares of cashews, 2,000 hectares of tobacco, 1,000 hectares of castor oil plants, 10 million coconut trees, 100 million cinnamon trees and 300,000 head of draft buffalo and cattle and will be producing from 80,000 to 100,000 tons of salt.

The districts, displaying self-reliance while seeking investments from the state, have, on the basis of their planning, gradually built networks of material-technical bases supporting production at installations and within the scope of the district. Installations supporting distribution and circulation have also been constructed and steadily strengthened. Marketing cooperatives that are closely tied to agricultural cooperatives and credit cooperatives have been organized. The districts have organized general commerce stores within the district economic-technical-cultural complexes. All agricultural

supply stations have been put under the direct management of the districts. These stations are supporting production and will eventually become general supply procurement agents.

The districts have begun to effectively distribute and utilize labor in a planned manner, as a result of which labor has been distributed by sector and trade and the labor force has been balanced among the various areas of the district. In many districts, a form of organization of labor has emerged involving the establishment of production ties among the cooperatives within the district for the purpose of expanding livestock production on a large scale or the establishment of economic ties between districts within and outside the province in order to expand production and business, establish a new division of labor, establish technical ties and increase the district's budget revenues, thereby creating new balances through which to meet the requirements faced in developing production. All districts are endeavoring to reduce the rate of population growth to below 2 percent by 1985 through planned parenthood and by sending persons to build new economic zones outside the district and outside the province.

In conjunction with reorganizing production at installations and within the scope of the district, the districts have gradually reorganized cultural life relatively well. Many districts have constructed cultural complexes that are closely tied to the economic-technical complexes within the district. General schools, kindergartens, medical aid stations, hospitals, wired radio networks, cultural centers, libraries and amateur and professional literature and art units have been widely developed.

The overall socio-economic planning of the districts and the planning of each production unit on the basic level have been closely linked to national defense. In conjunction with building the armed forces, the districts have mounted an educational effort and raised the vigilance of the people, especially in strategically important areas.

On the basis of the planning and the structure of socio-economic development of each district, all districts have trained cadres, especially key cadres for installations, through many different forms of training. The districts have (with assistance from the province) organized classes to train cadres in agricultural economic management and industrial economic management or sent cadres for long-term and short-term training at the specialized schools of the state.

Together with establishing an apparatus to assist the district people's committee in all aspects of administrative and economic management, each district has also organized business corporations on the basic level where necessitated by local conditions.

The districts of Nghia Binh have begun to make marked progress in improving their overall management skills. Generally speaking, although the degree of progress varies from one district to the next, every district has begun to learn how to manage production and business, how to unify the control and management of labor within the district in accordance with a plan when

necessary and how to apply state law in socio-economic management within the district.

On the basis of the initial results that have been achieved and the shortcomings that have arisen in the process of building the district and strengthening the district level during the past several years in Nghia Binh Province, we have preliminarily concluded that there are several matters toward which our efforts must be directed so that we can continue to build the district and strengthen the district level within our locality.

First, each sector, each level and each cadre must be given a thorough understanding of the line of the party and state on building the district and strengthening the district level; a clear understanding of the position and role of the district level; and a firm grasp of the basic requirements of the policy and measures involved in building the district and strengthening the district level in order to bring about well coordinated and highly determined changes on the part of the levels and sectors within the districts and the province. Building the district and strengthening the district level are not only the responsibility of the district level, they are also the responsibility of the sectors on the provincial level.

Secondly, the economic structure of each district is part of the overall economic structure of the province and the entire country. Therefore, district planning must be based on the planning and tasks of the province and the entire country regarding the economy, society, security and national defense. On this basis, an economic structure and production guidelines that are closely tied to the economic and natural conditions of each district must be established. Planning (overall planning, sector planning and the planning of the basic production units) that is thorough provides the only scientific basis for charting specific stages of development through the plan implemented each year.

Thirdly, the basic requirements in the building of the districts and the strengthening of the district level in the present stage are reorganizing production, establishing a new division of labor, closely linking agriculture to industry at the very outset and on the basic level and simultaneously carrying out the three revolutions within the countryside, among which the scientific-technological revolution plays the key role, in order to shift from small-scale production to large-scale socialist production.

Fourthly, in conjunction with reorganizing production, economic leverage policies must be applied that stimulate the development of production and insure balance among the three different interests (the state, the collective and the individual laborer). We must display self-reliance, mainly on the district and basic levels, while properly implementing the guidelines "the state and the people working together" and "the people performing the work with state support, if deemed necessary" in order to build material-technical bases, build public projects, and develop the potentials that lie in the labor, arable land, natural resources and trades of the locality so that the district economy can be strongly developed.

Fifthly, the building of the districts and the strengthening of the district level demand a corps of cadres who are competent, possess good personal qualities, display revolutionary zeal, dare to think and act and assume responsibility to the party and the people. Therefore, every district must adopt planning and plans for properly assigning cadres, closely linking immediate and long-range training requirements and establishing a corps of cadres that is well suited to the structure of the economy, a corps of cadres who are well versed in science and technology and skilled in economic management.

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THE MY VAN DISTRICT PARTY ORGANIZATION MOVES FORWARD ON THE BASIS OF UNITY AND CONSENSUS

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 8, Aug 84 pp 51-56

[Article by Nguyen Quang, secretary of the My Van District Party Committee]

[Text] My Van District was established through the merger of Van Lam, Yen My and My Hao Districts and two villages of former Van Giang District. Following two district mergers (the first in 1977, the second at the start of 1979), My Van District now has 38 villages, which have 22,069 hectares of land, including 15,503 hectares of farmland, and a population of 210,000. The cropland within the different areas of the district lies at different altitudes and is unevenly distributed compared to the population. Before the mergers, each district had different strengths and weaknesses and the movement was unevenly developed. However, generally speaking, the situation was one of many weaknesses: production was developing slowly; average rice yield was less than 5 tons per hectare; hundreds of hectares of cropland were lying fallow; winter crops only accounted for 29 percent of the amount of area under cultivation during the year; grain and food product obligations to the state were still low and, in many years were not met; and 39 percent of the basic party organizations within the district were rated weak and deficient.

When the merger was carried out to establish the new district, the majority of cadres, party members and people were excited, were confident in the decision made by the Central Committee and expressed hope in the district's new capabilities and strengths; however, there were some persons who were concerned and worried that the district had become too large to manage properly, that leadership and guidance would be decentralized, that they would have to travel too far and that the manpower and potentials of their original district would have to be shared. A number of persons had private concerns about how cadres would be assigned and deployed. And, some persons saw only the part, not the whole, displayed localism, tried to "protect their turf" and so forth.

With confidence in the Party Central Committee and under the close leadership of the Hai Hung Provincial Party Committee, the My Van District Party Committee quickly saw what it had to do and became determined to do everything possible to rapidly stabilize the situation and develop upon the new strengths

of the district established through the merger as much as possible. We decided that it was necessary to reassign cadres, most importantly the key cadres and leadership cadres of the various sectors and scientific-technical cadres, in a rational manner in order to fully utilize the skills of this corps. Having done this, we encouraged all party members and people of the district to emulate one another in creative labor and make full use of and develop the potentials and material bases of the locality as effectively as possible in order to support the development of production, support the daily lives of the people and maintain political security and social order and safety.

Within several years after the merger, My Van District recorded encouraging results. In agricultural production, we resolved the problem of cropland lying fallow, initiated the intensive cultivation of two rice crops per year, expanded winter crop production in conjunction with developing livestock production, accelerated small industry and handicraft production and expanded the production of export goods. Rice yields have risen markedly, from 49 quintals per hectare in 1979 to 53 quintals per hectare in 1980, 76 quintals per hectare in 1982 and 74.82 quintals per hectare in 1983. Not one cooperative within the district is recording a rice yield less than 50 quintals per hectare. Total grain output has risen from 73,000 tons in 1979 to 126,643 tons in 1982 and 112,678 tons in 1983, 2 percent more than planned. The amount of area under the cultivation of winter crops increased from 29 percent of cropland in 1979 to 47.8 percent in 1982. Due to the expansion of winter crop production, hog production has also developed. The size of the district's hog herd has been increasing at the rate of 7 percent per year. Contributions made under grain and food product obligations to the state have increased with each passing year:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Paddy</u>	<u>Pork, Live Weight</u>
1979	12,100 tons	1,180 tons
1981	16,600 tons	1,263 tons
1982	21,500 tons	1,306 tons
1983	27,400 tons	1,341 tons

In all other areas of its work, the district has been rated "above average" by the province, especially in the movement to establish "Uncle Ho orchards" and the planned parenthood campaign. My Van has maintained a population growth rate of 1.5 percent for several years in a row.

The district party organization has been awarded the "strong and solid party organization" banner by the Party Secretariat.

The realities of our district permit us to state that building and strengthening unity and consensus are very important in building the district and strengthening the district level, are the decisive factors in guaranteeing the successful performance of each task within the locality. To My Van District, a district that experienced two different mergers and consists of the villages of four former districts with their different circumstances, characteristics and work methods and procedures, building and achieving stronger unity and consensus has been a very strict requirement, more so than

normally. It can be said that the results achieved during the past several years have been due to the district party committee building unity and consensus throughout the district. To maintain and strengthen this unity within the party organization and among the people, we have regularly educated cadres, party members and the people in displaying a high spirit of unity, cooperating with, loving and assisting one another and harshly criticizing and struggling against localism and narrowminded thinking; on the other hand, we have achieved unity within the district party committee by successfully taking the following measures:

1. Leadership and guidance based on a unified plan, implementation achieved through district party committee resolutions.

Immediately after the district was established, we reached a consensus on how to evaluate every aspect of the district's situation in order to formulate overall planning and specific plans for socio-economic development within the district. On this basis, the district party committee meets periodically to discuss and decide the policies and measures that are needed to achieve implementation. Having gained experience from guiding the work performed in each of the former districts, our district party committee maintains that the sectors and villages must be given thorough and close leadership and guidance in implementing the resolutions of the district party committee in order to insure the successful implementation of established policies. The district party committee requires that all leadership cadres, especially the members of its standing committee, fully comply with this stipulation. On the other hand, in the guidance it provides, the district party committee takes determined steps to insure the successful implementation of the policies that have been adopted. For example, when organizing the implementation of the planning of water conservancy projects and the construction of the rural road network, the district party committee mobilized and organized the masses, with the result that this work was successfully completed. The district has mobilized equipment and labor to assist villages encountering many difficulties. This is also a positive way to assist villages in implementing the resolutions of the district party committee well. The labor force of the entire district was mobilized to build irrigation and drainage projects for each area, carry out a series of campaigns to dredge rivers, repair irrigation canals and ditches, build bridges and sluice gates... Within a short period of time, under the guideline "the state and the people working together," our district improved and extended the irrigation and drainage system within the district, thereby alleviating waterlogging and drought at many places; at the same time, main roads were constructed to link the district seat to the villages and the villages to one another. During the past several years alone, My Van District excavated and spread 1.5 million cubic meters of dirt to build water conservancy projects, constructed 500 bridges, 8 transformer stations and 28 pump stations and purchased 700,000 tons of means of transportation for use on water routes.

Another example is the following: In the past, some villages procrastinated when it came to fulfilling their grain and food obligation to the state and there were even some villages that did not contribute all that was required of them. Villages that did not meet their obligations were not harshly criticized and villages that quickly fulfilled their obligations gained

nothing by doing so. After the mergers, we took determined steps to correct this phenomenon and began to consider the stipulations regarding contributions made in accordance with obligations to be regulations. The district demanded that all villages fulfill their obligations and fulfill them on time. Villages that encounter unexpected difficulties and are unable to fulfill their obligation during one season must fully compensate for this shortfall during the next season. Villages that make their contributions quickly and exceed their quotas are promptly rewarded by the district and allowed to reduce their contribution to the grain reserve during the next season. In the space of only a few years, as a result of providing such resolute and close guidance, every village was fulfilling its grain and food obligations to the state.

2. A uniform code of operating procedures for the party committee echelon.

Formulating and strictly implementing uniform operating procedures are prerequisites to unity and consensus and also prerequisites to the successful implementation of each decision made by the district party committee so that the tasks proposed by the district party organization can be completed. Immediately after the establishment of the district, we proposed specific regulations concerning the operating procedures and activities of the party committee echelon and the various sectors and mass organizations. The members of the party committee and the leaders of the sectors and mass organizations participated in discussing and reaching agreement concerning these regulations. The district party committee then requested that each leadership cadre, including the secretary of the district party committee, fully comply with these regulations.

As regards operating procedures, the regulations clearly state which matters must be discussed and decided by the entire district executive committee, which matters require the opinion of the standing committee of the district party committee and so forth. Matters of major importance, such as putting a resolution of the central committee or the provincial party committee into effect; building and developing the district economy, building the party, building the mass organizations, organizing the material and cultural lives of the people within the district, the maintenance of political security, cadre work and so forth must be discussed and decided by the entire district executive committee. We also require that when deciding matters pertaining to investments or the mobilization of material resources, capital and labor, the district party committee must engage in thorough discussion and achieve a high level of consensus because these are matters that directly affect the interests of each locality and can easily cause a loss of internal unity.

As regards the district people's committee, the regulations clearly state that this committee must seek the opinions of the executive committee of the district party committee and, when necessary, also seek the opinions of the standing committee of the district party committee regarding such matters of major importance as the yearly plan and the primary measures adopted to implement it; the size of grain and food product obligations; plans to combat flooding, drought and waterlogging; the use of the budget; the methods by which supplies and goods are distributed and so forth. Jobs that are governed

by regulations and principles of the state or routine jobs are performed by the people's committee in accordance with its functions.

Each month, our district party committee meets once and its standing committee meets three times on regularly scheduled days, not including emergency meetings. To improve the quality of the decisions made by the district party committee, the permanent members and standing committee of the district party committee must thoroughly prepare the agenda of meetings, provide advanced notification of the matters that must be discussed and, if these matters are important, send pertinent materials to everyone in advance so that they can prepare their thoughts. One operating principle that we have adopted is that differing opinions can be expressed when discussing a matter in conference; however, once a matter has been voted upon and become a resolution, each cadre must speak and act in exact accordance with the resolution. Each resolution of the district party committee is transmitted to the party members within each basic party organization. The basic party organizations debate and discuss measures for implementing the resolution of the district party committee.

To insure that district party committee resolutions are implemented well, we have also adopted regulations on inspecting compliance with resolutions. As a result, we have been able to promptly amend our policies and measures where necessary and criticize and correct the practices of places that have not strictly complied with resolutions. In addition, inspections based on party statutes and inspections in cases of disciplinary action against party members have also been carried out in a thorough manner and on the basis of established procedures. We have instituted the practice of "the entire party committee performing inspection work," instead of leaving this work up to the inspection committee.

In our work procedures and activities, we have also attached importance to putting the practice of self-criticism and criticism on a regular basis. Self-criticism and criticism within the various party committee echelons are conducted periodically or following each phase of work. Both self-criticism and criticism center around the performance of assigned tasks. We also collectively examine the work of each person, gain experience, contribute opinions to persons who are not performing their work well and praise and study the work of persons who have recorded many achievements. We attach very much importance to the skills and zeal of each comrade; at the same time, we do not give light attention to or ignore shortcomings that have to do with character and ethics or someone's style of work or life. The regular practice of self-criticism and criticism has had a good impact upon the efforts made by each party committee member to complete the job assigned to them. Unity and consensus within the party committee echelon have been further strengthened.

3. Training and assigning cadres in a rational manner that guarantees internal unity.

As a district established through mergers, we understand that assigning the corps of cadres that was established by combining the cadres from the former districts in a rational manner is a prerequisite to maintaining unity. At first, the executive committee of the district party committee was appointed

by the provincial party committee. This executive committee selected the heads and assistant heads of the various sectors on the basis of opinions expressed by the various committees of the province. During that period of time, practically all of the party committee secretaries of the important agencies within the district were members of the district executive committee so that the district party committee could promptly resolve problems that arose during the initial period, when we were still getting to know one another. Later, we began to assign cadres on the basis of standards; however, maintaining harmony among the former districts is still very important in maintaining unity. In cadre training, we have given attention to providing the former districts with an ample number of cadres who are fully competent and possess good personal qualities. On this basis, we have taken the initiative in assigning cadres, replaced cadres who reach retirement age and replaced incompetent cadres or cadres who have committed mistakes and are no longer able to continue their work. Although we feel that maintaining harmony in the assignment of cadres is necessary, this does not mean that all authority should be shared. Of decisive importance is that these cadres must be fully qualified, meet the requirements of their work and be persons who symbolize the movement throughout the district.

We also feel that providing training to improve the leadership skills of the corps of cadres is also a prerequisite to maintaining unity and consensus. When the cultural, theoretical and professional standards of the corps of cadres are high, agreement can easily be reached concerning viewpoints and methods when discussing work. We have concerned ourselves with improving the skills of the corps of district and installation cadres. At present, the executive committee of the district party committee consists of 35 members, 31 of whom have received middle or high level training in theory and 15 of whom have attended college or middle schools; the majority of the remaining members have a level III general school education. All district party committee members who are in charge of economic sectors have a college level education. The recent party organization congresses at installations selected 140 new party committee members, thereby bringing the number of young cadres to 41 percent and increasing the number of cadres who have a level III school education by 27 percent. There is no longer any party committee members who only have a level I education. To strengthen the corps of cadres at installations, the district party committee assigned 12 of its members and 3 similarly qualified cadres to serve as party committee secretaries and cooperative directors.

4. The unity and consensus of the district party committee are the factors uniting the party organization of the entire district.

In order to mobilize everyone to devote their energies and intelligence to building My Van into a prosperous and strong district, the standing committee of our district party committee has been determined to build unity and consensus within the district party committee and use them as the nucleus in building unity and consensus throughout the district. We consider it indispensable for the members of the district party committee to set good examples, especially the members of its standing committee. We have made efforts to prevent a situation in which "persons are pulling against one another"; rather, the entire district executive committee is a collective

whose actions are very closely coordinated. The three permanent members of the district party committee act as one. The 11 members of the standing committee of the district party committee act as one. And, the entire district party committee acts as one. To achieve this coordination, each person must fully comply with the work and activity regulations of the district party committee and each party committee member must democratically discuss each job of the district. Although we practice democratic discussion, we do not lean upon one another nor do we tolerate an irresponsible attitude. Although we practice democracy when discussing matters, the guidance provided by the district party committee is centralized. Although our centralism is high, the constant supervision provided by the collective has prevented authoritarianism and a "dictatorship" from developing. In actuality, there have been some jobs concerning which some difference of opinion has existed; however, we went ahead and performed these jobs and then, on the basis of what we achieved, discussed them again and reached agreement. Even when offering criticism to one another there have been cases in which we have had to wait for one another, had to give comrades times to think about their actions and then gain experience together. By working in this spirit, we have come to understand one another better and are more closely united.

This unity and consensus have created a strength that has helped us overcome many difficulties and challenges and move the district steadily forward. It can be said that My Van District has developed rather uniformly and steadily in all aspects of the movement over the past several years. In keeping with the party resolution on building the district and strengthening the district level and together with accelerating agricultural production, we have been endeavoring to intensify the development of small industry and the handicraft trades, especially accelerate the production of export goods, and trying to balance livestock production and crop production in order to develop My Van District into a prosperous and strong agro-industrial district and retain the title "strong and solid district party organization."

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VINH LONG ATTACHES IMPORTANCE TO SUPPLEMENTARY EDUCATION

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 8, Aug 84 pp 56-58, 63

[Article by Vu Quoc Chau]

[Text] Since liberation day, Vinh Long City in Cuu Long Province has made significant advances in the new stage of the revolution.

The socialist education system has been formed and is on the momentum of development. One very significant achievement that Vinh Long has recorded in the field of culture and education came in late 1983 when, having wiped out illiteracy (1977), we virtually completed the popularization of level I education among the people of the city through supplementary education.

Vinh Long City, which consists of seven subwards and two villages, has a population of nearly 100,000.

Under the former regime, the majority of the working people in Vinh Long lived in poverty and misery and were trapped in ignorance. After truly winning the right to be the masters of the country, everyone set about with enthusiasm and excitement to build the revolutionary government, build the new life.

Although facing difficulties with material bases and obstacles caused by shortages in economic life, the party organization and government of Vinh Long City attached importance at the very outset to building and developing the system of revolutionary education. Because, if they were educated, if their cultural standard was raised, the working people could develop the ability to exercise collective ownership in production, in economic management and the management of society and contribute much manpower to the cause of building their city, building the country.

To begin with, under a policy of "delivering everyone from ignorance," Vinh Long City organized classes to wipe out illiteracy. An intense and widespread study movement was launched, one that drew the participation of each stratum of the people, a movement in which the literate devoted their efforts to teaching the illiterate to read and write. As a result, Vinh Long City was recognized as a unit that had wiped out illiteracy ahead of schedule and was

awarded the banner of the Ministry of Education and the government's Labor Order Third Class in 1977.

Continuing to consolidate and develop upon the gains that had been made in education, Vinh Long then launched a "55 day and night campaign to popularize second grade education" with renewed determination, a campaign that was successfully concluded on 19 May 1977, the anniversary of the esteemed Uncle Ho's birth.

The Vinh Long City party organization and government have been clearly aware of the need--as stated in the resolution of the 4th Party Congress--to "provide increased supplementary education for adults, especially the cadres and youths in the South who participated in the revolutionary struggle" and consider this to be "a very important measure in building the contingent of revolutionary core cadres."

After studying and fully implementing the directives of the central level and the province regarding cadre training and planning, the supplementary education of key cadres, party members, Youth Union members, outstanding youths and so forth, the Vinh Long party organization and government decided to launch a "campaign to popularize level I supplementary education" among the people of the city, a campaign to which the response by the masses has been enthusiastic.

The Vinh Long City Education Committee surveyed the cultural standards of the people and adopted plans for organizing classes and providing teachers for the three different categories of students in accordance with the instructions received from the Ministry of Education. The specific scope of the popularization of education is as follows:

1. The popularization of 5th grade education among cadres, party members and Youth Union members; target: 100 percent completion with some persons going on to level II classes.
2. The popularization of 5th grade education among youths and working people between the ages of 15 and 30; target: 90 percent or more.
3. The popularization of 5th grade education among working people between the ages of 30 and 40; target: 80 percent or more.

A Supplementary Education Guidance Committee has been established that consists of representatives of the party organization, government, mass organizations and the education sector and is headed by the chairman of the city people's committee. This committee has a network of organizations that extends into the subwards and villages. At the same time, supplementary education support societies have also been established on the basic level to help and encourage everyone to attend classes. The people have eagerly made voluntary contributions of notebooks, pens, ink, chalk, blackboards, lantern oil and so forth for classes. Many members of the support societies, although old and frail, regularly work to encourage and remind persons to attend classes and are always ready to help look after buildings or allow their homes to be used for classes.

Subward and village cadres have displayed high zeal in encouraging the people, encouraging their own families to participate in the supplementary education movement and have, themselves, set good examples by regularly attending classes. Practically all secretaries of village party chapters and village chairmen attend specialized supplementary education classes. Many of these persons have made marked progress through their studies, as seen in their improved leadership of all areas of work within the locality. As a result of raising their level of education, some comrades are qualified for the program in theory taught at party schools for middle level and high level cadres. A number of soldiers and personnel who have done well in their supplementary education studies have been accepted into the party and become key cadres at installations. Clearly, supplementary education has made important contributions to training and building Vinh Long City's corps of cadres.

Another reason for the acceleration of Vinh Long's supplementary education movement has been the fact that specialized and semi-specialized teachers have overcome each difficulty faced in order to provide good instruction. Although their organizational and professional skills are still limited and teaching and learning aids are in short supply, these teachers have always displayed a higher spirit of dedication and devotion to their students. A rather large number of them have implemented the slogan "one council, two tasks," by teaching at one of the general schools during the day and at one of the 74 supplementary education centers within the city at night. As a result, night supplementary education classes are always well attended and achieve fine results.

Since the start of 1980, one subward after another in Vinh Long City has virtually completed the popularization of level I supplementary education under the established program. Two villages in the rural area of the city are still encountering many difficulties: the villages themselves are large, their material bases are underdeveloped and the number of persons requiring supplementary education is three times higher than in the subwards. Therefore, the city held a conference to conduct a preliminary review, gain experience and focus efforts on accelerating the supplementary education movement within these two villages.

Together with the supplementary education classes within the subwards and villages, the various committees and sectors of Vinh Long City have also opened classes and held many examinations, as a result of which they have met the standard of popularizing 5th grade education throughout their agencies or units.

Following 4 years of work, Vinh Long City has completed the plan to popularize level I education through supplementary education for 5,023 persons; of this number 157 are cadres, party members or Youth Union members (100 percent), 3,424 are youths or working people between the ages of 15 and 30 (97 percent) and 1,442 are working people between the ages of 30 and 40 (97 percent). Thus, more than 30,000 persons in Vinh Long City now have a 5th grade education. Of greatest significance is the fact that the working people have the right and obligation to further their education and have achieved a certain level of education that enables them to make positive contributions to

the work of molding the new man, establishing the new culture and building the new, socialist life within the locality.

The initial, encouraging achievements recorded in education within Vinh Long City show:

The leadership levels of the party, government and mass organizations within Vinh Long gained a thorough understanding of the resolutions and directives of the central level and locality regarding educational work and became fully aware of the importance of supplementary education in the new stage of the revolution. On this basis, they became determined to focus their efforts on this work, adopted plans to provide the necessary guidance and took specific organizational measures and steps to provide close management in order to build and develop the education movement among the people.

--The basic prerequisite to the success of education is the need for good organization under the leadership of the party, coordination between the sectors of the government and the mass organizations and close cooperation between the state and the people, among the school, the family and society. Therefore, the establishment of the Supplementary Education Guidance Committee and the supplementary education support societies with their networks that extend down to installations in order to provide routine inspections, supervision and assistance and encourage all aspects of education within the subwards and villages of Vinh Long was very necessary and has had a major impact upon the movement. At the same time, the activities of the information sector, the propaganda sector, the press and so forth in promptly praising and inspiring examples of good persons and good work in instruction and learning have been indispensable in helping to maintain and promote the supplementary education movement.

--As regards the rural areas, we must send into the hamlets cadres armed with plans for completing this work at each place by a specific deadline in order to popularize supplementary education on a village-wide basis. Attention must be given to the agricultural seasons and to coordinating with other revolutionary movements so that teaching and learning can be organized accordingly.

--To achieve success in supplementary education, it is absolutely necessary to make good preparations for the establishment of a corps of cadres and specialized and semi-specialized teachers who truly serve as a shock force in overcoming every difficulty, are always available, have perfect classroom attendance and, at the same time, serve as the competent staff of the party committee echelon and government on the basic level in the field of education.

The concern of Vinh Long City for supplementary education will surely make positive contributions to training and building a large contingent of core cadres who possess good political qualities and both the knowledge and skills needed to meet the requirements of the present tasks of the revolution.

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TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF VIETNAMESE FEATURE FILMS

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 8, Aug 84 pp 59-63

[Article by Nguyen Thu]

[Text] The Vietnamese feature film sector has experienced a quarter century of development since the production of its first film "All Forming One River."

Compared to the long history of the nation's other arts and even to the roughly 100 year history of world cinematography, this is truly a short amount of time. However, this brief period has been a glorious stage in the development of Vietnamese feature films.

Vietnamese feature films, from the very first films, such as "All Forming One River," "The Kinglet," "Miss Tu Hau," "Raising the Wind," "The Children's," "The Young Soldier" and so forth, have not only won many distinguished awards at international film festivals, but have also confirmed a step forward, an achievement, the unique style of Vietnam's young cinematography.

In the past 25 years, through nearly 200 films of varying lengths, Vietnamese feature films have dealt with every aspect of life through extremely profound and diverse themes that have accentuated the revolutionary heroism, humanism, spirit of sacrifice and unshakeable will of all our people in the war to liberate the fatherland as well as in the work of building and firmly defending the socialist Vietnamese fatherland.

The profound theme that forms the fundamental character of Vietnamese feature films is revolutionary heroism, which has its origins in our nation's tradition of struggling to build and defend the country throughout our 4,000 year history, the pinnacle of which came in the two wars of resistance against French colonialism and U.S. imperialism.

This revolutionary heroism and tradition of unyielding struggle can be found in many characters in many films on the war of national liberation, from little Nga in "The Kinglet," Van in "Raising the Wind," Nguyen Van Troi in "Nguyen Van Troi," Nui in "The Road Back to My Motherland" and Nguyen Thanh Trung in "The Rejected Child" to Miss Su in "The Clod of Earth," Tam Quyen in "The Season of the Counter Prevailing Winds," Ba Do in "The Fallow Fields,"

etc. And, when the war to defend the fatherland against Chinese expansionism and hegemony broke out on the southwestern border and the northern border, we produced feature films on this war, too, such as "Motherland," "The City Within Our Grasp," etc.

The heroism presented within Vietnamese feature films is a heroism that has been challenged in the depths of history and through the harsh realities of the just war fought for the independence and freedom of the fatherland, for the happiness of the people. It is the heroism of real, living people, a heroism that is a resplendent part of the reality of the great Vietnamese revolution, a heroism that is the complete opposite of the images portrayed by false heroes, of heroism based on the theory of voluntarism or blind worship of the individual that we have seen in the films of some countries.

Loyal to the creative methodology of socialist realism, Vietnamese feature films have tried to always more faithfully reflect the life of our people, a simple and wholesome life but one filled with lyricism and romance, an epic.

Continuing this direction and style, recent films have taken another step forward, have reached a new level of refinement, as most clearly seen in the films "The Fallow Fields," "The Statue," etc.

The 25 years of growth and development of Vietnamese feature film cinematography have been 25 years of striving for a humanist cinematography. Thus, humanist themes are quite prevalent themes in Vietnamese feature films. This is both a matter of principle and a basic characteristics of a cinematography that embodies the spirit of the communist party. Bourgeois cinematography poisons and destroys the soul and character of man. Crime and sexual passion are the two ingredients of all works of bourgeois cinematography. Bourgeois films cannot develop a plot without crime and sexual passion. Many experts in bourgeois cinematography, many "movie stars" and the bourgeois movie public are worried and concerned about their children being corrupted in an age in which life as well as the movie screen are inundated with such harmful stimulants as drugs, promiscuity, guns and knives. Conversely, in the nearly 200 Vietnamese feature films that have been produced over the past 25 years, humanism has been embodied in each character, action and word. Humanism, like heroism, is the tradition, the character, the ethic and the *raison d'être* of the Vietnamese. It is not surprising to find a copy of the Vietnamese feature film "Chom and Sa" in the National Film Archives of the Republic of France, even though we do not have film procurement or exchange relations with France. The person in charge of the archives said that he purchased the film "Chom and Sa" at an international film exchange center and likes it very much because it embodies a very high degree of humanism.

Not only the film "Chom and Sa," but many other Vietnamese feature films as well, from "The Uneasy Dawn," "The Neighbor's Child," "Kids," "The Children of Hanoi," "The Teacher, Miss Hanh,"...to films produced since the liberation of the South, such as "For All Tomorrows," "Velvet, the Cat," "The Final Offense,"...have humanism as their central theme.

As regards the theme of socialist transformation and construction, feature films have also made noteworthy contributions. Film writers and producers have closely adhered to the positions and lines of the party and state in each specific stage and produced films that promptly support immediate as well as long-range political tasks. The movement to establish agricultural production cooperatives was reflected in the film "The Orange Grove"; the movement to build water conservancy projects in the film "The Floating Village"; the movement to make innovations, make technological improvements and open worksites in the films "White Smoke" and "The Girls of the Worksite"; the movement to reorganize production, improve cropland and initiate large-scale operations in the films "My Native Village" and "Mr. and Mrs. Luc"; and now, the product contracts with groups of laborers and individual laborers movement is reflected in the film "The Summer Farewell." Film writers brought to these films the very breaths of life, the joyous and fresh atmosphere of the early days of building socialism and charting the necessary course of the struggle to abolish private ownership, establish public ownership of the means of production, abolish feudalism and capitalism and build socialist society. The strategic objective toward which feature film cinematography must direct each of its efforts is to help clearly mold the character of the new, socialist Vietnamese, create models of the new man, establish the standards of the new man and create characters and works that are worthy of the country and the times. Examined from this perspective, Vietnamese feature films have not had much success in dealing with this theme. Excessive brevity, the application of formulas, a simple, one-sided approach, stamping from molds, stereotyping...these are the shortcomings frequently found in many films. Films are still being produced whose characters and story are dull and uninteresting. However, there have been some films of high quality dealing with this theme, such as "Mr. and Mrs. Luc," "Persons Who Met," "My Way of Life," and a number of other films. In these films, their writers not only delved deeply into real life and tried to create a convincing honesty about characters and their personalities, but have also displayed the new view toward, the new way of thinking about man and life. In recent years, this trend has become clearer and stronger through the films "Hatred and Love," "The Last Hope," "The Summer Farewell," "The Shining Sea," and "Far and Near." This trend represents a change in how reality is viewed, a change in the structure of plots, a change in how characters are developed and contradictions are resolved. Instead of the old stereotypes, we find a deep commitment to creative discovery. Instead of viewers becoming a passive audience, we find the viewer sharing the writer's concerns, thinking along with the writer, making choices and creating the unexpected, the uncertain outcome in order to discover that which is correct, is good.

Whereas early films that dealt with the theme of war were, for the most part, simple films that were rich in lyricism, were compressed but moving, like poetry, and whereas the resistance against the United States for national salvation marked the emergence of major films, major from the perspective of their length and the events depicted, of the scale of battles and the sheer quantity of bombs and shells, today's war films are very much different. Back then, events usually concealed man; today, man stands out above events. Now, war is the foundation, the background against which characters unfold and the soul, character and will of the Vietnamese is portrayed. The films "The Fallow Fields," "The City Within Our Grasp" and "The Statue" were of this

type. "The Fallow Fields" generalized, in a profound way, the will, immortal strength and humanism of the Vietnamese. In "The Statue" and "The City Within Our Grasp," the writers incorporated in their films the rational nature, the reasoned but still illogical nature of war that controls man and his fate through both style and method, through a new genre of art. In contrast to previous films dealing with the fight against the aggressor forces of China, the film "The City Within Our Grasp," although it depicted no armies, not even any battles, still showed the viewer the truth of Maoism, the danger it poses and its underlying origins.

Another issue facing Vietnamese feature films in recent years has been the need to respond to, answer the questions of life. What should the attitude of film artists be in the face of the negative phenomena within society and what must they do? In this area, too, Vietnamese feature films have recorded significant achievements. The films "The Orange Grove," "Following the Storm," "Stormy Trip" and numerous other films have relentlessly attacked negative phenomena and corrupt persons. With a view toward protecting the party and strengthening the people's confidence in the ultimate victory of reason, of socialist ideals, these films, through sharp insight, a zealous attitude and correct points of view, brought to light those things that are harming the ethical principles and *raison d'etre* of our new society. The emergence of these feature films and their critical themes, which lends a strong voice to the struggle to rid ourselves of negative phenomena and support that which is genuinely new, has received the support of large numbers of movie-goers.

The films of ours that have criticism as their theme are becoming increasingly profound and persuasive, thereby helping to answer many of the questions faced in life. "The Neighbor's Child," "The Summer Farewell" and "The Last Hope" never concealed or avoided harsh reality. Neither did they idealize reality, present easy answers or suggest a fine outcome to the viewer. The writers of these films looked at reality in all its complexity, analyzed and explained it thoroughly and provided the viewer with all the events and evidence necessary. The balance of these films was dedicated to making viewers think, making viewers ask themselves what they must do to bring about the triumph of truth and reason.

Another aspect of Vietnamese feature films that is deserving of attention is the harmonious blending of the national and the modern, the traditional and that which represents a change for the better, thus making the character of Vietnamese cinematography both national and modern. This is a very important matter. If we only gave our attention to that which is national and traditional, but not to the modern and that which represents a change for the better, we would be unable to meet the needs of modern audiences at home and in the world. Conversely, if we only gave our attention to the modern and that which represents a change for the better, not to that which is national and traditional, we would cause the disappearance of the color and unique features of the nation.

Many feature film artists have given their attention to this matter and expressed it in an increasingly profound, selective manner while seeking creativity in their works. The success of the films "The Fallow Fields," "The

"City Within Our Grasp" and "Return to the Place of Windblown Sand" are an example. All three of these films won distinguished awards because they were a harmonious blend of modern day factors with the unique features of the people and the natural surroundings of Vietnam.

Some films in the world contain many scenes that deal with children; however, the child in "The Fallow Fields" is unlike any child in any of these films. Even the life in combat of the husband and wife, both of whom were communications-liaison personnel, and the natural beauty, the rivers and water in the film "The Fallow Fields" have a color all their own, the very unique color of the extreme southern portion of our fatherland. The film "Return to the Place of Windblown Sand," in addition to describing the soul, character and contemporary issues of Vietnam is also a poem, a picture of a Vietnamese village whose beauty is unsurpassed by any village in any other country of the world. "The City Within Our Grasp" is also different, bringing as it does improvements in script composition and methods of expression compared to traditional films. "The City Within Our Grasp" has neither a story nor any lines of antagonism and conflict as found in traditional films nor does it contain any battles, any bombings or shellings, rather, it presents the real and the illusory, the present and the past joined together, interwoven. In this film, the nation's character is expressed in the thinking and feelings of the Vietnamese, in the specific circumstances of Vietnam. From the story of a fairy named To Thi and a cave called Tam Thanh, from a folk song and from forgotten, betrayed relationships of bygone days, the author recreates the issues facing the people of modern Vietnam, not for the purpose of arousing emotions or provoking feelings of remorse, but to focus the thinking of viewers. As a result, the writer allowed the characters to reminisce and remember, to struggle and reason with themselves, thereby gradually revealing personality and state of mind and the issues about which he wanted to comment. This genre is not new to the world, but it was applied in a reasoned and calculated manner to a theme and story about Vietnam.

Developing upon its splendid tradition and the achievements recorded during the past 25 years, the Vietnamese feature film sector is engaged in a continuing effort to improve the quality of films even more and produce films that have a major educational impact upon viewers and are a strong attraction to viewers. This is the course that feature film art must follow, the course that it is following.

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NGUYEN THONG, A BRIGHT STAR OF OUR COUNTRY DURING THE SECOND HALF OF THE 19TH CENTURY

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 8, Aug 84 pp 64-67

[Article by Truong Quoc Minh commemorating the 100th anniversary of the death of Nguyen Thong (1884-1984)]

[Text] In the mid-19th century, when the French colonialists began to invade and occupy our country, one of the writers of the school of patriotic literature at that time, a writer known throughout the country, was Nguyen Thong.

Nguyen Thong was born on 22 June 1827 in Binh Thanh Hamlet, Lower Thanh Hoi Canton, Tan Thanh District, Tan An Prefect in the province of Gia Dinh (now Phu Ngai Tri Village in Vam Co District, Long An Province) to the family of a poor scholar. At 17 years of age, he was accepted to study the Chinese language in Phu Xuan and passed his masters examination at the age of 22. Under the reign of Tu Duc, he served as a mandarin, advancing to the post of provincial treasurer. He died on 25 August 1884 in Thanh Duc Village, Duc Thang Canton, Ham Thuan Prefect in the province of Binh Thuan (now Duc Nghia Subward of Phan Thiet City in Thuan Hai Province), which he considered to be his second home.

The patriotic intellectual Nguyen Thong, a man of extensive knowledge, made significant contributions to the culture of Vietnam through many works of value on literature, history, geography, education and the law.

When discussing the career of Nguyen Thong, attention is usually first given to his literary efforts, to the several hundred poems and pieces of prose written by him in Chinese characters and assembled in the anthologies "Ngoa Du Sao Thi Van Tap," "Don Am Van Thap," "Ky Xuyen Van Sao," "Ky Xuyen Thi Sao"...each of which contains many books that are ardently patriotic in content and of high literary value.

Due to the limitations imposed by feudal consciousness, the prose of Nguyen Thong unavoidably contained certain ideological weaknesses; however, it still clearly expressed the character of a patriotic intellectual who had love for his race and the common character of his nation. Although the majority of his

poems employed literary allusion, his thoughts flowed in a very natural and sincere manner and always embodied a feeling of uncertainty and worry over the country's destiny back then.

It is not surprising that Nguyen Thong devoted much of his private life to composing poems and writing literature because, according to him: "Most things in this life ultimately perish, only the eternal star of literature does not fade away, and whatever energies I have in my lifetime will be dedicated to it"(preface to "Ngoa Du Sao Thi Van Tap").

In the preface he wrote to the anthology "Ky Xuyen Thi Sao," the concepts with which Nguyen Thong approached the writing of poetry were very clearly stated: "Showing off one's strength is not a prerequisite of beauty, polishing to perfection is not a prerequisite of skill and making petty choices is not a prerequisite of harmony, such is the veracity of poetry." It was his belief that literature must be closely tied to life, that the purpose of writing poetry and prose is to teach life. Therefore, he criticized the poetry of the Chinese feudal dynasties, from the Qin and Song to the Yuan, as sometimes irresolute, sometimes verbose, as "incapable of inspiration. For this reason, neither the gifted nor the common man find anything of use in it." Nguyen Thong also did not fail to harshly criticize the detachment from reality of those writers who were "devoid of knowledge" but often resorted to "elaborate fabrications"; who "like to talk about life but have not experienced life; who like to discuss public matters but have not once tended to public matters themselves; who like to talk about things they themselves have never done; who like to discuss world affairs even though they have never stepped foot from their village; and who, before achievements even come to the people of an area, want to compare them to the virtuous and noble men in life."

In his writing of poetry, in contrast to a number of contemporary poets who gave light attention to form, his stern attitude was "to counsel and enlighten oneself through one's careless mistakes" in order to write poems, every line and word of which is beautiful.

In the final half of the 19th century, Nguyen Thong was perhaps an atypical writer of literature, especially with regard to stories that accurately presented the heroes and war dead of his times. His thinking behind these stories was: "...In war time, almost everyone is willing to risk their life to preserve their integrity. However, when persons display great valor in deeds not known publicly, no one thinks to record them for posterity." Through his stories about Truong Dinh, Ho Huan Nghiep, Phan Van Dat and others, Nguyen Thong presented in rather deep and vivid detail the life history of each person and how each person fought and died for the country. He was especially adept at describing heroes through the typical things found in struggle and everyday life and brought into focus the close relationship between the individual and the masses in history.

Nguyen Thong was not only a poet, he was also an eminent intellectual in many fields.

Although not an historian, Nguyen Thong was commissioned by the House of Nguyen to participate in the drafting of the "Edict on the Summary History of

Vietnam"(1876) and he made 167 observations or suggestions on correcting inaccuracies or deleting superstitious tales from previous history books. He compiled the "General History of Vietnam" in which he displayed broad knowledge of history and geography. In addition to Vietnam, he also studied and wrote about both neighboring countries of Laos and Kampuchea.

Nguyen Thong also concerned himself with specific economic issues and voiced many very correct ideas concerning production. While serving as provincial treasurer in Quang Ngai, he encouraged the people to develop agricultural production through simple, sincere words in many different poems, such as "Recommendations on Support for Agriculture"(Khuyen can nong), "Recommendations on Farming"(Khuyen tai thuc), "Recommendations on Digging Water Conservancy Ditches"(Khuyen hung cu)...and always had "some words for our friends on the farms": "Do not let exhaustion deter you," "do not overlook even one of the country's resources" and "anything can be accomplished if you have the will." In particular, in the "Essay on the Vinh Loi Canal," Nguyen Thong displayed his scientific mind by proposing that the canal be narrow and deep so that it could draw water from the Ve River and thus increase the canal's flow, making it strong enough to turn water wheels rapidly.

Another aspect of Nguyen Thong's career that stands out was his strategic vision with regard to building and developing the country. He attached very much importance to developing the mountains in order to bring prosperity to the country. He said: "Since antiquity, the wilderness regions, the skies and the land have held a bounty of treasures for us"; therefore, he frequently sent "national agenda for developing the mountains" petitions to the king suggesting that a plan be adopted to use the army to develop the mountains for a period of "10 years, the time needed to complete this work, each day of which must be a day of strenuous efforts" in order to build the country and make the army strong, strong enough to take back the territory lost to the French. It was Nguyen Thong who took the lead in discovering the important economic and national defense capabilities and potentials of the mountains of western Binh Thuan and the southern Central Highlands, in general. Although physically frail and frequently ill, Nguyen Thong personally led explorations into the upper reaches of the La Nga River and the mountainous jungles of Tanh Linh (Binh Thuan). He left his footprints on the Lam Vien plateau before the French colonialists even had their eyes on that region.

The life of Nguyen Thong was an example of a person who was poor but honest, a person trusted by friends and respected by the people. Everyone still admires his spirit of defending just causes and his refusal to tolerate any of the injustice and misdeeds of the imperial court. In the face of brute force and tyranny, he also displayed an unyielding spirit. While serving as Khanh Hoa provincial judge (1868) and prosecutor within the Ministry of Justice, he sent petitions to the king suggesting revisions to the Imperial Code of Law (the code promulgated by Gia Long in 1815). In a detailed petition dealing with domestic affairs, he forthrightly expressed the hope that King Tu Duc "no longer take vacations to distant places (...), reduce the scale of construction in order to set an example of frugality, have firm belief in the people and treat them accordingly (...) and tolerate frank discussion in order to encourage others to give you their counsel"(Dai nam thuc luc chinh bien,

Volume 35, pp 285-286). He displayed a very deep hatred of those in power who harm the nation. In "The Story of the Exorcist"(Nhuong quy thuyet), he defined six kinds of devils, devils who "obstruct the law"; devils who "promote themselves to higher positions and demote others"; devils who "sell out their skills as writers, sell out their literature"; devils who "use military activities to further their own interests"; devils who "covet fame"; and devils who "conceal their true selves from others."

Also because he directly opposed the tyrannical regime of the imperial court, Nguyen Thong's reputation was once so falsely assailed by corrupt officials that he was dismissed from his post, imprisoned and flogged (1871). He was subsequently exonerated when the people of Quang Ngai sent a petition to the capital appealing his case.

In summary, through his actions, Nguyen Thong always showed himself to be a progressive thinker, always displayed a staunch will and boundless energy for struggle.

When the three provinces of eastern Nam Ky fell under French control, Nguyen Thong and a number of other patriotic scholars left the region occupied by the enemy and sought refuge in the western region. They even removed the body of their mentor, Vo Truong Toan, from its grave and took it with them for burial elsewhere. When the French occupied the three western provinces, Nguyen Thong sought refuge in Binh Thuan. But this in no way indicated any passivism or defeatism on his part. Because, in between the two different attitudes that prevailed then, one of gradually retreating in the face of the enemy's might and eventually reaching a compromise with them and surrendering and the other of continuing to recruit partisan forces to fight to the end, stood Nguyen Thong, who advocated building and strengthening the country's remaining territory, establishing solid bases, organizing forces, preparing the necessary logistics and waging a protracted resistance to reclaim the lost portions of the fatherland. Clearly, this objective was an entirely positive one.

Regrettably, however, Nguyen Thong was unable to achieve his desires, primarily because of the obstacles posed by the cowardly and corrupt imperial court.

Nguyen Thong was a man whose character was one of resisting the aggressors, a man who feared no danger, not even to his own life. Although not a military man, when the country was invaded, he immediately resigned his position in Hue in order to go recruit troops. He fought the enemy in Gia Dinh and held the rank of rear admiral. When Dai Don fell, Nguyen Thong made his way to Tan An, where, together with the Truong Dinh partisan army, he continued to fight the enemy.

When ordered to withdraw along with the imperial court's forces from Binh Thuan, Nguyen Thong could not sit idle and constantly immersed himself in working for the good of the country, the good of the people. He dedicated more than one-third of his life to his second home, Binh Thuan. He gave his full attention to arranging and organizing every aspect of the people's life, especially through the "commune" organization he founded.

One can see in Nguyen Thong the character of a modern day Vietnamese, see a man who, although shackled by feudal thinking, quickly came to see the new issues that would lead the country toward independence and self-sufficiency.

Influenced by Nguyen Thong's ardent patriotism and love for his race, his sons and several other patriotic scholars later intensified the Modernism Movement. The economic and cultural modernization organizations, such as the Business Association, the Association of Cities and Truong Duc Thanh, that were founded by Nguyen Trong Loi and Nguyen Quy Anh at the start of the 20th century in Phan Thiet clearly embodied positive contributions by the Nguyen Thong family to the patriotic struggle during that period.

The patriotic intellectual Nguyen Thong will always be a bright star of the people of the South, of our nation of Vietnam.

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THE INDUSTRY AND AGRICULTURE OF RUMANIA UNDER THE PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT

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[Article by Le Tinh]

[Text] In late August, 1944, the decisive victories won by the Soviet Red Army on the front against the German fascists created basic conditions favorable for the revolutionary situation in Rumania. On 23 August 1944, under the leadership of the Communist Party of Rumania, the Rumanian people arose, toppled the country's fascist regime and liberated a portion of Rumania. As a result, the date 23 August 1944 marks a turning point in the history of Rumania and has become that country's national day. On the momentum of that victory, the Soviet Red Army, along with the armed forces and people of Rumania, advanced to liberate Rumania from fascism. However, because of opposition by reactionary powers within the country, it was not until 30 December 1947 that the working class truly seized political power in Rumania and the founding of the People's Republic of Rumania was declared. The period from 23 August 1944 to 1951 was the period of the democratic revolution in Rumania. The strategic tasks of that period were to restore the economy, carry out agrarian reform and other democratic reforms and create the basic conditions for advancing to the stage of building the material and technical bases of socialism. The period from 1951, the first year of the first 5-year plan, to 1965, when Rumania declared itself to be the Socialist Republic of Rumania, was the period of the building of the material and technical bases of socialism in Rumania. In 1965, Rumania entered the stage of building developed socialism. The strategic objective of the period of building the material-technical bases of socialism in Rumania was to give priority to carrying out industrialization with a view toward establishing a modern, balanced and dynamic industry capable of equipping the entire national economy with technically advanced, highly efficient machinery.

After being liberated, Rumania inherited a backward economy that had been ravaged by the war, an industry that only accounted for about 20 percent of the value of the national economy's total output and an agriculture that represented 75 percent of the entire labor force of society. In the face of this situation, building a modern industry was the objective requirement of utmost importance. Therefore, the Rumanian state focused its efforts on industrialization in order to expand the key role played by industry in

economic, scientific and cultural development, in raising the standard of living and even in economic and cultural cooperation with other countries.

This industrialization strategy was reflected in each field of economic and social development and was concretized in the form of investment guidelines, in the rate and ratio of development among the various sectors and in construction measures aimed at turning industry into a dominant sector, a dynamic factor, a lever in the development of the entire national economy.

Today, under the industrial development strategy described above, Rumania has become an industrial-agricultural country and is on its way to becoming a developed industrial country. In 1983, industry accounted for 64 percent of the gross social product and more than 57 percent of national income and supplied more than 80 percent of machines and equipment to the economy. In 1983, industry supplied to society 44.5 million tons of coal, 82,700 tractors, 2.9 million tons of chemical fertilizer, 70.2 billion kilowatt hours of electric power, 10.6 million tons of petroleum, 32.6 billion cubic meters of natural gas, 12.6 million tons of steel and 1,109,000,000 meters of cloth.

In conjunction with the development of industry, Rumania's agricultural sector has also steadily developed. The completion of cooperativization in 1962 laid the groundwork for stepping up agricultural production. In Rumania, the factors determining the growth of agriculture have been the size of investments in the construction of material and technical bases within agriculture and orienting industry toward supporting agriculture. Rumania's experience has shown that only by creating strong material-technical bases for agriculture so that agriculture can limit the harmful effects of natural disasters, is mechanized, applies chemistry in production, has effective irrigation and drainage and regularly improves the fertility of the soil is it possible to provide the conditions needed to establish a modern system of agriculture capable of supplying grain and food to all of society and supplying the necessary raw materials to industry. This, in essence, is the foremost task of the planned socialist economy in Rumania. The realities of Rumania have shown that giving light attention to agriculture is detrimental to the stable progress of the entire economy, adversely affects the rate of growth of national income and impedes efforts to raise the standard of living of the people. For these reasons, while Rumania considers industry to be the decisive factor in the development of social production, to be the lever behind the growth of the national economy, it also considers agriculture to be the prerequisite, the base for developing the economy.

Within Rumania's agriculture, state farms occupy an especially important position. Rumania's state farms, which now encompass 2.11 million hectares, are the state's main and most stable source of grain and food products. Because they are equipped with modern technology, the state farms always lead the agricultural sector in crop yields.

Collective agriculture, which now encompasses more than 9 million hectares, consists of 4,655 agricultural production collectives. The Rumanian state has assisted this sector in many ways. Agricultural tractor stations managed by the state help the cooperatives complete their agricultural work on schedule and with high quality. The state supplies fertilizer, insecticides, seed and

feeder livestock of high quality, thereby enabling the cooperatives to apply advanced techniques. The state grants loans to farmers under terms that return a profit.

With a population of 23 million, Rumania harvested 20 million tons of grain and produced 1.57 million tons of meat in 1983 as a result of focusing its efforts on developing agriculture.

During this decade, Rumania is trying to bring about a profound change within agriculture in terms of both material-technical bases and the organization of production in the fields of both crop production and livestock production. To do this, Rumania is taking measures to protect and enrich its soil, provide for better irrigation and drainage, expand mechanization and apply high quantities of high quality fertilizer in an effort to achieve high and stable crop yields, beginning with grain, industrial crops, vegetables and fruit crops. Increases in crop output are being achieved primarily by raising crop yields per unit of area through the selection of crop varieties, the increased use of fertilizer, increased irrigation and drainage and soil improvement projects in conjunction with improving the management of field work so that seasonal schedules are maintained. Rumania is trying to harvest 29 million tons per year by 1990, an average of 1 ton of grain per capita per year.

The 1981-1990 economic development strategy marks a new stage in the building of developed socialism in Rumania, the goal of which is the further modernization of the economy on the basis of the scientific-technological revolution in order to achieve new quality within all economic sectors. During this period, Rumania is endeavoring to develop its industry and agriculture in a stable and balanced manner. This is the most important experience gained, the most important lesson learned in the many decades spent building and developing the economy in Rumania. At the same time, during this period, Rumania is giving its attention to maintaining a rational ratio among all sectors of the economy; focusing efforts on strengthening the domestic raw material and energy base and improving the structure of industry, with priority to leading sectors; strengthening the material and technical bases within agriculture and improving the production relations and organization of production within agriculture; continuing to distribute production forces in a rational manner throughout the country; widely carrying out the scientific-technological revolution in all fields of the economy; raising social labor productivity and putting a new economic and financial mechanism into place. Rumania's guideline is to make the decade of the 80's the decade of "science, technology, quality and efficiency."

The achievement of these objectives will restore a new balance between industry and agriculture and establish the rational and dynamic structure of a complex economy. This is the basic prerequisite to continuously developing industrial and agricultural production and moving the Rumanian economy steadily forward.

As the 40th National Day of Rumania is celebrated, the people of Vietnam are very happy over the tremendous achievements recorded by the fraternal people

of Rumania. Together with the sincerest congratulations, we express our desire and determination to work for the continuous and fine development of the relations of friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Rumania.

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